

## Fears over employers' checks

# Huge growth in vetting by police records

By Quentin Cowdry and Mark Souster

MORE than a million people a year are being vetted by prospective employers with access to police records. In January and February alone, the names of 27,500 people seeking county council positions passed through the police national computer. Dozens of other employers are entitled to make similar checks.

They range from local and national government to doctors and dentists, from the Atomic Energy Authority and the Royal Mint to the BBC and British Telecom. The growing use of the computer for such purposes is prompting widespread concern that civil liberties might be threatened.

Last year, the computer handled about 500,000 requests for information from government departments, and a survey by the Association of County Councils suggests that a similar number are being vetted for council jobs. On top of that, an unknown number of people applying for private sector jobs are being screened, almost certainly taking the total past the million mark.

No official figures are released on the number of such checks being made or on the detail of what kinds of workers are being vetted, although the Home Office has issued a list of occupations that can be subject to screening.

Checks have to be justified either on grounds of national

security or in the interest of protecting children. The decision on whether to allow such vetting lies with chief constables, who generally nominate a senior officer to undertake the task.

A growing cross-section of opinion, spanning MPs from all parties, the civil liberties lobby and some senior police officers, believes there is an urgent need for the system of criminal record keeping and distribution to be made more accountable and that pressure for yet more widespread vetting should be resisted.

A report to the Commons Select Committee on Home Affairs found that much of the information held by the National Identification Bureau was either out-of-date or inaccurate. That did not surprise pressure groups such as the National Council for Civil Liberties, which are calling for the Data Protection Registrar's watchdog role to embrace criminal records. Other groups, including the home affairs committee, believe the records should be kept by an independent publicly-accountable agency, though police and Customs would have direct access to files.

The vetting requests revealed by the Association of County Councils survey involved teachers, social workers, school caretakers and librarians, youth and play-group workers, sports instructors, nursery nurses and adoption and fostering officers. All had been provisionally appointed, pending the outcome of their vetting.

All of the applicants should have declared any previous criminal convictions, as people seeking positions offering "substantial access" to children are exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act, 1974, which allows most offenders' convictions to become spent after set periods. The police national computer revealed that 736 had tried to conceal convictions. Of those, 28 had serious criminal records — nine having been convicted of assault, five of sexual offences and 13 for thefts and burglaries. One man seeking to resume custody of a child who had been in care had eight convictions for offences including buggery and gross indecency.

Miss Kate Main, of the association's education department, defended councils' zealousness towards vetting: "The Home Office guidelines give councils some latitude about which posts should be vetted, but few opt for a narrow interpretation and who can really blame them?"

They only have to make one mistake and there could be a tragedy." She found it reassuring that only 36 candidates had been rejected — 0.01 per cent of the total number screened and 5 per cent of those who tried to hide convictions. That clearly indicated councils were observing the 1974 Act and discounting minor or irrelevant offences, she claimed.

Miss Main said most councils now routinely vetted, with police help, anybody provisionally appointed to any one of 24 job categories listed in a 1988 Home Office circular. That circular revised guidelines drawn up two years earlier after a council-approved baby sitter with a record for sex offences murdered four-year-old Marie Payne.

The 1988 guidelines tried to contain the enormous rise in vetting that followed the Marie Payne case by limiting checks to jobs where the employee could be in regular "one-to-one" contact with children. A growing number of councils, however, think the line has been too tightly drawn and that vetting should be extended to cover school taxi and bus drivers, dinner assistants, groundsmen and leisure centre staff. Some chief constables have succumbed to the pressure. But others, including some of the country's most reflective senior officers, have resisted.

Mr Neil Taggart, chief whip of the Labour-dominated West Yorkshire Police Authority, thinks all taxi drivers should be vetted, regardless of who their main customers are. "The vast majority of council employees," he said, are not bothered about the fact that a prospective employee got involved in a brawl 20 years ago. What is crucial is that in West Yorkshire we have some convicted rapists who are driving taxis and that has to be wrong." In one case, the mother of a rape victim spotted her daughter's assailant driving a cab in Leeds.

Sir John Wheeler, chairman of the home affairs committee, is unperturbed by the rise in vetting, given the sharp increase in terrorism in recent years and apparent increases in sexual and violent crime. But he adds: "The concern is that vetting is done in a professional and accountable way. There is no profound civil liberties issue in there being a proper, accountable means of vetting."

Police campaign, page 2  
Mistaken identity, page 2  
Tell us more, page 14

## Thatcher years have failed poor, MPs say

By John Lewis

THE Government's argument that the Thatcher years have benefited the poor will be challenged tomorrow by a report which suggests that the statistics have been wrong.

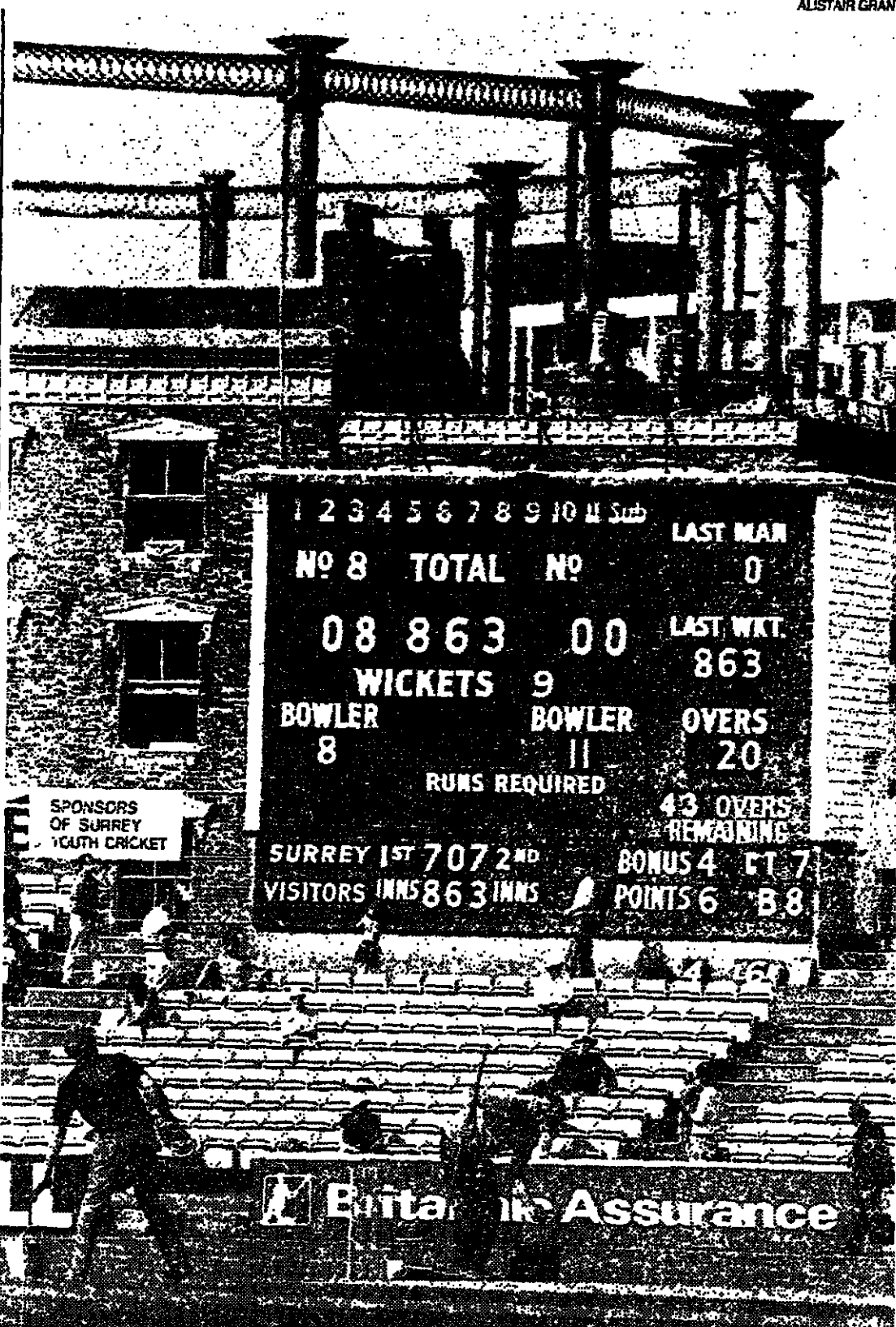
The Institute of Fiscal Studies, carrying out a report for the Commons' Social Services Select Committee, has summed up a serious error in previous calculations by government statisticians.

The original data suggested that from 1981 to 1985 living standards for the whole

population went up by 4.8 per cent while those for the poorest 10 per cent jumped by 8.4 per cent. The corrected figures demonstrate, however, that average living standards increased by 5.4 per cent but rose by only 2.6 per cent for the poorest 10 per cent.

The committee's report will make plain that the "trickle-down" process is not working as the Government claims.

Failed policy, page 7  
Leading article, page 15



Top score: Groundsmen tend the pitch at the Oval yesterday after Lancashire scored a record 863

## Batsmen score in runaway weather

By Robin Young

BATSMEN took advantage of fine weather and benign pitches yesterday as perspiring bowlers — and motorists — toiled through the last day of the Bank holiday weekend.

The Lancashire left-hander Neil Fairbrother made 366, the highest individual score seen at the Oval, eclipsing Sir Leonard Hutton's 364 against Australia in 1938. Fairbrother was the main contributor to Lancashire's 863 against Surrey, which beat their highest of 801 against Somerset in 1985 and passed the best in a county championship match at the ground.

A small consolation for Surrey, who scored 707 for nine declared, was that they share a record aggregate of 1,650 runs for county cricket. Yesterday was the first day for a week in which temperatures in Britain failed to exceed those in the Mediterranean. Temperatures remained above the seasonal norm, however, with the South enjoying most of the sun and a comfortable 19°C (66°F).

At least three people died as thousands of holidaymakers tried to beat the rush home by making an early start, but many did not avoid heavy jams. One of the worst was at Conwy, north Wales, where by noon there was a queue several miles long. Police blamed "idiotic driving" for an eight-mile tailback on the M5 between Clevedon and Weston-super-Mare.

Forecast, page 24  
Match report, page 46

## Gorbachov attacks separatism

From Mary Dejevsky, Moscow

PRESIDENT Gorbachov yesterday launched a fierce attack on separatism and the "abuse" of glasnost for nationalist ends. He also condemned the "extremist slogans" at the May Day parade in Red Square, dismissing it as proof of the instigators' understanding that their time was running out.

Responding to those who have called for stronger leadership from the top — a belief prevalent in military circles — Mr Gorbachov said there would be "no return to Stalinist repressions". In what may have been an oblique reference to the KGB, he

stressed the importance of the law and its observance "including by those whose job it is to enforce it".

Mr Gorbachov was addressing several hundred benedict Second World War veterans. The Kremlin meeting, also addressed by newly-promoted Marshal Dmitri Yazov, the Defence Minister, was the first formal event of the week's celebrations for the 45th anniversary of the end of the war in Europe.

The main Victory Day celebrations will be tomorrow, which is a national holiday. A full-dress military parade through Red Square is planned.

and, according to the Defence Ministry, it will take the form of a historical pageant giving a "retrospective glance at history".

The parade, which was announced six weeks ago, will cost an estimated 1.5 million roubles (£1.5 million). It has been widely seen as an attempt by the leadership to placate the military which has generally lost out as a result of President Gorbachov's changes in Soviet domestic and foreign policies. Although five-yearly anniversaries are always celebrated more lavishly than those in between, this year's Victory Day seems

to have been given a particularly high profile.

For several days now the Soviet media have been dominated by reminiscences of the war years. At the weekend Mr Gorbachov announced a list of 22 new Heroes of the Soviet Union.

In a new admission, General Pyotr Lushch, the Commander-in-Chief of the Warsaw Pact forces, said yesterday that Soviet losses in the Second World War had exceeded 27 million people.

Photograph, page 8  
Kremlin contact, page 8  
Cash shortage, page 25

## Move to stop film pay-offs for crime

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

THE Government is to consider laws to stop murderers and other serious criminals being paid for films based on their exploits. Mr John Patten, Minister of State at the Home Office, has asked for an urgent review inside the Home Office with a view to legislative proposals being contained in the Criminal Justice Bill planned for the next session of Parliament.

The move follows the furor after recent revelations that Ronald and Reginald Kray, both serving life sentences for murder, have received £255,000 for *The Krays*, a film about them that has just opened in London.

Ministers believe that legislation would be consistent with measures already taken to confiscate the assets of

drug-traffickers and people convicted of serious crimes involving more than £10,000. They feel that having done so it would be wrong to allow criminals to benefit indirectly from films, musicals or books made about them.

However, ministers accept there are practical difficulties which the review will have to address. Some people would see such a ban as censorship, it is accepted. There would also be difficulty in ensuring that benefits were not paid covertly to criminals, either through families and friends, or foreign bank accounts.

Mr Patten's move will be strongly welcomed by Conservative MPs who have been calling for legislation, or for the film on the Krays to be boycotted by the public.

### INSIDE

#### Bid to free hostages

In a move to open the way for a deal that could set free four Belgians held hostage in Beirut, the governing board of Louvain prison, near Brussels, has recommended early parole for Nasser Saeed, a Palestinian terrorist serving a life sentence for a grenade attack on Jewish children.

Mr Emmanuel Houetkins, his wife and their two teenage children were kidnapped aboard a yacht in the Mediterranean in 1987. Page 24

#### Hunt for gang

Cheshire police are searching for a group of bogus social workers who called on families claiming to have instructions to examine their young children. Page 3

#### Teacher survey

Schemes to attract more teachers to the shortage subjects of mathematics, physics and technology are in danger of running out of steam, according to a survey published yesterday. Page 5

#### One currency

Europe's leading businesses are in favour of a single European currency to replace existing national monetary units according to a survey to be published by the National Institute of Social and Economic Research. Page 25

#### Mail moves

A four-page Special Report on the Royal Mail, highlighting its use of new technology in the improvement of its services, begins on. Page 31

#### Golf triumph

José María Olazábal, of Spain, secured a thrilling one-stroke victory over Ian Woosnam, of Wales, in the Benson and Hedges International golf tournament at St Mellion, Cornwall. Page 4.

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Norwegian walkers Erling Kage, left, and Boerge Ousland

## Frosty response to explorers' Arctic walk claim

By Robin Young

SIR Ranulph Twisleton-Wykeham-Fiennes, newly returned himself from the Arctic wastes, cried "fool" yesterday against the claim by two Norwegians to have become the first people to have walked unaided to the North Pole. There was, the explorer says, a third man.

As with the 1911 race when Roald Amundsen beat Captain Robert Scott to the South Pole, it is the Norwegian flag which flutters over the ice cap, but Erling Kage, aged 28, and Boerge Ousland, aged 27, are accused of not having got there without help.

The support Sir Ranulph claims of came when a third Norwegian team member, Geir Ramby, who had injured his back, was airlifted out on day 14 of their 500-mile trek across the Arctic from Ward Hunt Island off

Canada. Sir Ranulph, officially acclaimed as the "world's greatest living explorer" by the *Guinness Book of Records*, was forced to abandon his own fourth attempt at one of the last uncharted pinnacles of human endeavour by melting ice and lack of food when he was just 90 miles from his target. He has only been back a week and is still recovering from the effects of snow blindness which could rule out any further Arctic expeditions for him.

"The Norwegians have done very well, but they have still not conquered this particular challenge," he said. "People might ask why grown men can spend their time worrying about the rules involved in walking unsupported to the North Pole. But others agonize about the rules of football, say, so why not in polar walking?" His companion on the

march, Dr Michael Stroud, said Kage, a law student, and Ousland, a deep-sea diver, had the benefit of the third man to help pull their food, fuel, tent, radio equipment and spares for the first 10 days of the walk before the back injury.

Dr Stroud, aged 35, a specialist in the effects of extreme climate for the RAF Institute of Aviation Medicine, said: "Having a third man to share the load amounted to considerable support."

He said that neither British nor Russian polar authorities would recognize the Norwegians' journey as unsupported.

A Russian expedition to the North Pole last year was disbarred from claiming the "first unsupported" accolade because of similar airborne assistance for an injured team member.

## Home Office to study call for football fixture veto

By Philip Webster  
Chief Political Correspondent

THE Home Office is to examine a call from the Chief Constable of Dorset for the police to be empowered to veto football fixtures they believe likely to attract violence.

Accusing the Football League of ignoring a police request to reschedule Saturday's match between Bournemouth and Leeds United, Mr Brian Weight said he would be consulting the Association of Chief Police Officers with a view to approaching the Home Office for the veto power.

Mr Denis Howell, the shadow Sports Minister, said Labour would press for a statement from Mr Colin Moynihan, the Minister of Sport, today. Labour was opposed to giving the police powers to veto fixtures. "We do not want football and sport decided by the police. Football is a lawful occasion and the job of the police is to police lawful occasions," he said.

It appears increasingly likely that the ban on English teams in Europe will continue in the aftermath of Saturday's incidents involving Leeds supporters. Mr Lennart Johansson, President of the European Football Union, said yesterday: "It looked so good. But after this I am very sceptical about letting the English clubs back."

He said that Uefa would decide whether to lift the ban on May 24, before the opening of the World Cup finals in Italy. Until the weekend it had been assumed that the conduct of England fans in Italy would determine whether English clubs were to be allowed back.

Mr Weight said yesterday: "The Football League have got to listen to us. I am furious with the arrogant way we were treated. We knew what would happen."

He told BBC Radio 4's *The World At One*: "I am writing to the Football League tomorrow and I am going to tell them, after the hooligans had committed all the damage, all the indecent assaults on women, smashing shop windows, and the beating up of 12-year-old supporters of Bournemouth, that I hold the Football League responsible."

"They attacked us with bricks and injured my officers. One of my officers, if he had not been wearing a Nato helmet, would have been killed... I asked them on many occasions to

Continued on page 24, col 7

Forgery inquiry, page 3  
Diary, page 14  
Uefa sceptical, page 46

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## An alarming case of mistaken identity

**By Mark Souster**

**Computer victim:** Mr Neil Foster of Marlborough, who has a clean licence, was accused of driving while disqualified after being mistaken for his banned namesake.

was impounded. At the time he said: "I had done nothing wrong, but by the end of it even I was beginning to feel guilty."

Cases such as this are rare, but that they occur at all is an indictment of the system critics say. The Association of County Councils, which partly funds the police computer, and the National Council for Civil Liberties (NCCL) say inaccuracies could be overcome by allowing individuals unrestricted access to their own entries.

In theory this is possible under the Data Protection Act, 1984; in practice it is not so easy. The computer is subject to the controls set out in the Act, but the Government has a veto on what may be released in the interests of national security.

The National Union of Civil and Public Servants set up a team to deal with the expected surge of applications from the public for information about themselves soon after the Act became law. However, it was disbanded two years ago because the anticipated flood of inquiries failed to materialize.

Ms Madeleine Colvin, the NCCL's legal officer, said complaints were still being received from individuals that prospective employers had found out about a previous spent conviction which need not be declared.

"There should be a watchdog to see that what is held is not excessive. The Data Protection Registrar should be that watchdog. It should have much greater powers over these files because they can and do have a great effect on people's lives."

Mr Alex Carlile, QC, secretary of the all-party barristers' group in the Commons and Lords, has said there is a case for putting the police computer under the control of someone like the registrar, who could exercise quasi-judicial authority to determine whether an inquiry should be made of the computer.

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Royal Mint; national museums and galleries; the Traffic Commissioners; the Official Receiver; the Gaming Board of Great Britain; the Securities and Investments Board; Office of Fair Trading; other police forces; prosecuting

authorities; the courts; judges and magistrates; local advisory committees for the appointment of JPs; prison service; probation service.

Research organizations; British Telecom; BBC; Post Office; the Dental Council; Medical Council; the UK Central Council for Nursing.

Midwifery and Health Visiting; authorities and organizations responsible for the care and supervision of those who are vulnerable, such as the police, probation, social services, and the courts.

such as the young, handicapped and infirm; member countries of Interpol; countries to which the Extradition Acts, the Fugitive Offenders Act, and the Indictable Of-

Act and the Indictable Offences Act apply, and countries with which the Government has reciprocal arrangements for the exchange of information about convicted persons and persons awaiting trial.

the computer which meant that anyone who tapped into the data-bank could be almost instantly identified.

"There will always, as long as you have human beings involved in the collection or accessing functions, be scope for corruption. But overall, I don't think it's a problem any more."

After the prosecution of the three officers last year the Home Office issued new regulations designed to elimi-

naive abuses which have proved effective. No longer can a police officer be easily persuaded to "do a friend a favour", for anything up to £100, thereby jeopardizing his career, pension rights and good character.

Random checks are now made by superior officers asking why information on an individual or vehicle was required. Monthly checks are also made and a log has to be kept explaining why information was requested.

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# Nuclear test

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**Hospital attack**  
Police were alerted to a man who had assaulted a girl of 16 and carried her into a Great Ormond Street children's hospital in central London. The girl was moving fast and a Scottish ambulance carrying a T-shirt

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# Gang posing as care staff may have struck again

By Peter Davenport

DETECTIVES in Cheshire hunting a group of bogus social workers who called on families claiming to have instructions to examine their children said yesterday that the visitors could be the gang responsible for almost 20 similar incidents around the county.

The latest cases, in a series of seemingly connected incidents that began on January 30, occurred in the Nantwich area, near Crewe, on Sunday. Two men, both described as well groomed, called at three houses and claimed to be social workers with instructions to examine the children living there.

A red saloon car, possibly a Vauxhall Cavalier, was seen nearby on each occasion with two other people inside, one a young woman with long, fair hair. The descriptions of her and of the car are similar to those given in other cases.

The series of incidents began in Sheffield, South Yorkshire, on January 30, when two women posing as social workers examined two young children in front of their mother after asking them to undress completely. Several days later, one of the women returned, accompanied by a man, saying that they had warrants to take the children into care. They left after their authority was challenged by the mother.

Over the following weeks, a rash of similar incidents were reported elsewhere in South Yorkshire and Humberside, as well as in Wiltshire, Somerset, and Greater Manchester.

South Yorkshire police have set up a special investigation team of 12 detectives amid fears, expressed by senior officers, that the incidents

could be the prelude to an attempt to kidnap a child or that the gang seeks perverted sexual gratification by the intimate examination of young children.

In the latest incidents, in Cheshire, the bogus social workers left after being refused access by the parents when they failed to produce identification.

Chief Inspector Ann Pyke, of Cheshire Police, said: "It is too early to say positively that there is a link, but we are looking at it very closely. There are several similarities. There are now almost 20 incidents spread far afield, and a light red car seems to be involved. Our main concern now is that people heed the warnings and do not let anyone into their homes."

One mother in the Cheshire incidents told police that one of the bogus social workers said that they had been looking at her son, aged two, before calling at the house.

In earlier cases, visitors have also posed as officials from the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

Both police and the organization have warned parents not to let anyone examine their children without insisting on identification. If still in doubt, they should contact the organization that the caller claims to represent.

Police were yesterday treating as suspicious an incident in which a woman resident in the village of Milthorpe, near Kendal, Cumbria, was asked the whereabouts of the "adoption agency" by a man driving a red sports car. He was said to be about 30 and 5ft 10in. It is not known whether his passenger, wearing a hat, was male or female.



Knight errand: Keen watch on Mr Paul Richardson as he arrives at St Giles Cripplegate Church, City, yesterday, for a 900th-anniversary fair

## Ticket forger blamed for football violence

By Adam Fresco

POLICE investigating the fighting between rival football supporters at Bournemouth over the holiday weekend are looking for a forger who, they say, is partly to blame for the violence by distributing hundreds of tickets with the same number.

Supt Les Burns, of Dorset police, said many forged tickets were printed for Saturday's match by a master forger. He said: "They were good forgeries, all bearing the same number. It is worrying as it makes a nonsense of crowd safety." By yesterday, there had been 100 arrests in connection with the violence. Most of those held were Leeds supporters and police said more arrests were expected.

Meanwhile, three men alleged to have carried out a revenge attack on Leeds supporters, appeared before Bournemouth magistrates yesterday. Mr George Morrison, aged 27, of Lytton Road, Bournemouth, Mr Martin Pettit, 23, of Library Road, Parkstone, Poole, and Mr Simon Kerley, 24, of Farwell Road, Parkstone, are accused of causing grievous bodily harm to Mr David Maddox, of Bradford. They are also alleged to have been in possession of offensive weapons.

Mr Maddox was among Leeds supporters attacked outside a wine bar in Bournemouth on Sunday.

He was hit and kicked unconscious and is in "an extremely poor condition" in Poole General Hospital. The three, who appeared in court in white paper boiler suits because their clothes had been taken for forensic science tests, were given conditional bail.

Three other Bournemouth men Mr Martin Littlecott, 29, of Lytton Road, Mr Nicholas Barnett, 27, of Fraser Road, and Mr David Cooper, 26, of Tregonwell Road, were accused of possessing offensive weapons. They

were given conditional bail until 17 July. David Andrews, 26, of Union Street, Selston, Nottinghamshire, who admitted using threatening words and behaviour on May 5, was fined £350 and bound over for a year.

Mark Bryan, 29, of Cavendish Street, Lancaster, was fined £1,000 and bound over for two years in the sum of £500 after throwing a bottle at a police car. Andrew Edwards, 27, of Manor Road, Rothwell, Leeds, was fined £750 and bound over in the sum of £500 after admitting threatening people outside a restaurant.

Sport, page 46

## Bail plea by lorry driver fails

A GREEK public prosecutor yesterday refused bail to a British lorry driver accused of transporting part of an alleged Iraqi "superbomb" through Greece, but he passed the case on to an investigating magistrate for a final decision later this week.

The bail petition from Mr George Ashwell, aged 26, of Northampton, was rejected on the ground that he might leave Greece before a trial.

Mr Ashwell's lawyers based the bail request on the claim that their client was not aware of the nature of his lorry's load. He is being held in prison in the western port city of Patras.

## Nuclear leak

The fast reactor at the Dounreay nuclear plant in Caithness has been shut down because of a leak last month. Experts, who had to wait until the reactor cooled, were last night investigating the discharge of sodium which, a spokesman for the plant emphasized, was not radioactive.

## RSC tour saved

The Royal Shakespeare Company's 16-week regional tour, in danger of cancellation in February during a cash crisis, has been resurrected. The Arts Council has found extra backing and British Telecom has "substantially increased" its sponsorship.

## Hospital attack

Police were yesterday hunting a man who indecently assaulted a girl of 11 whom he enticed into a room at the Great Ormond Street children's hospital's nursing school in central London by saying he was moving furniture. He had a Scottish accent and wore a striped T-shirt.

## Call for talks on prison numbers

CHIEF probation officers are seeking early talks with the Government on population, to reduce the prison population. The Association of Chief Officers of Probation said it was ready to discuss changes ahead of reforms detailed in the Government's Criminal Justice White Paper.

Mr Gordon Read, the chairman, who is chief probation officer for Devon, said: "Chief probation officers would gladly enter discussions now with the Government and all criminal justice agencies to accelerate changes that do not require legislation."

The Government plans to limit the use of imprisonment for less serious offenders by making courts consider a range of community punishments contained in reports drawn up by probation officers.

The association said probation officers could act as "gatekeepers" to keep minor offenders and people with social, health, or welfare problems out of the courts. They could also supervise more serious offenders serving community penalties or parole.

But it attacked electronic tagging of criminals outside prison, and said plans for dealing with young offenders were "based on an ideal of good parenting out of touch with the reality of many young people's lives."

Eight staff were injured yesterday when fighting female prisoners turned on them at Risley Remand Centre, Cheshire, the Prison Officers' Association said.

Prison officers at Walton Jail, Liverpool, have voted by 400 to 50 in favour of industrial action to try to prevent trouble-makers formerly at Strangeways Prison, Manchester, being transferred there.

Prison Officers' Association members say the prison already has 1,350 inmates, far more than the 900 it is

supposed to accommodate. A rooftop protest by 10 inmates over conditions and overcrowding in an Aids separation unit at Mountjoy Jail, Dublin, was near to an end last night amid accusations that the Government was ignoring the urgent need for penal reform in Ireland (Edward Gorman writes).

The prisoners had scrambled on to the roof on Sunday. However, by last night only two were left after eight had given themselves up.

The protest coincided with the conference of the Irish Prison Officers' Association in Galway, which was told by visiting British delegates that the Irish prison service face the same problems as the British and that a riot and protest on the scale of Strangeways could happen.

Yesterday, opposition politicians joined the mounting criticism of Mr Charles Haughey's government over the affair. Mr Jim O'Keefe, justice spokesman for Fine Gael, said the Mountjoy protest highlighted the government's "failure to face up to the many problems in our prisons and the urgent need for penal reform."

One of his vicars said: "He is very personable and fits in well with society. People who talk to him think he is wonderful. Politically, I think he is moderately left-wing but not at all radical. If he was

## MAN IN THE NEWS

## Dark horse in the Canterbury race

By Ruth Gledhill

BISHOP John Waine, the "dark horse" in the race to become the Archbishop of Canterbury, yesterday refused to inflame speculation which has him running strongly to succeed Dr Robert Runcie.

Bishop Waine, aged 59, and last year appointed Clerk of the Closet to the Queen, was possibly the most surprised of all churchmen to see his name appear in a form book up to now dominated by Archbishop Robert Eames of Armagh, Dr John Habgood, Archbishop of York and the Right Rev Richard Harries, Bishop of Oxford.

He says he has barely given the matter a moment's thought and is immersed in plans for a decade of evangelism in his diocese, the second largest in the country, with 2.5 million people. It has a high concentration of inner city areas in east London and rural parishes in north Essex.

One of his vicars said: "He is very personable and fits in well with society. People who talk to him think he is wonderful. Politically, I think he is moderately left-wing but not at all radical. If he was

appointed, nothing would change.

"He would be a good man to keep the thing on the road for another 10 years. He is a very strong candidate because no one will say a word against him."

"He has a strong social conscience. He is a good politician and a diplomat. His only weakness is his education. He was never at Eton, Oxford or in the Guards."

Bishop Waine said of himself: "I'm an enigma."

The bishop's short entry in *Who's Who* is an epitome of humility. He was unusually young, aged 45, when first made a bishop, at Stafford. That followed Prescot Grammar School, Manchester University, Ridley Hall theological college, and 20 years in parishes in Liverpool.

"I do know some of the problems of high unemployment, vandalism and the hopelessness in inner cities."

But he said he was surprised by the speculation. "Someone wrote to me from one of my old parishes and said he had put some money on me. He was planning to give the proceeds to the church. I would like the church to have the money but I think he may have backed the wrong horse."

The Anglican Evangelical Assembly almost unanimously passed a motion at the end of its weekend meeting at Hoddessden Park, Hertfordshire, yesterday listing the chief qualities needed by the next Archbishop of Canterbury.

What the motion meant was spelled out by the Rev Peter Broadbent, vicar of Trinity St Michael, Harrow, and a member of the General Synod. No one contradicted him when he said that what they were being asked to do was to pass a motion which said: "We don't want Habgood."

He gave a provisional go-ahead. Now the college is putting in a formal application, and the assumption is that it will be given permission.

The 1988 troubles passed when the college turned to other sources of funding, not least a gift of around £250,000 from Christie's.

In 1982, after swingeing government cuts, the college was forced to merge with London University's Bedford College.

She said there were no plans to sell any of the core collection of 76 Victorian paintings, which includes "The Princes in the Tower" by Millais, and Edwin Landseer's "God proposes — man disposes." But campaigners say that this is inconsistent. Although the three paintings precede the Victorian period in date, they are just as much part of the collection, which is a unique record of high Victorian taste.

The council's decision comes after problems in 1988, when it first approached the Charities Commission informally. Mr Robin Guthrie, Chief Charities Commissioner, said then that "the pictures were given separately by an indenture for the decoration of the college buildings. In other words they are not viewed as part of the educational endowment."

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In 1982, after swingeing government cuts, the college was forced to merge with London University's Bedford College.



Bishop John Waine relaxes with his terrier Peg

## Bunkers of the golfing kind come to bandit country

By Edward Gorman Irish Affairs Correspondent

INTREPID Western diplomats living in Kabul at the height of the Afghan war proved that you can play golf almost anywhere, even if the layout of bunkers can change dramatically between shots.

Now an Irish farmer, tired of dwindling profits in the beef industry and who has never played a round in his life, is about to prove, or so he hopes, that golf can triumph in the "bandit country" of south Armagh, perhaps the most notorious — and, for British soldiers, certainly the most dangerous — area

of the United Kingdom. Ashfield golf club will be the first in south Armagh when it opens for business next month. The course is the brainchild of Mr James Quinn, a softly-spoken man with modest ambitions for golf as a tonic for a troubled community.

"We feel sorry south Armagh has the image that it has and we hope this will give it a boost," he said while preparing yesterday for the opening. "It will help to take people's minds off the troubles. A lot of young lads want to join the course, which is great because there's very high unemployment — so maybe this will encourage them

to take up the sport." Mr Quinn, aged 46, a father of four, decided to go ahead with the conversion of his farm after golfing experts told him the rolling green fields would make a stunning course.

He hired Mr Frank Ainsworth, one of Ireland's top green-keepers and designers, to lay out the 18 holes. Now, more than £300,000 later, the club is ready for the first tee-off with more than 400 prospective members planning to pay an annual subscription of £200.

The course lies just three miles from the border between Crossmaglen and Cullyhanna, a region of sweeping natural beauty tragically

scarred by violence and through which the security forces are unable to travel by road for fear of IRA land mines. Like many in Northern Ireland, Mr Quinn has put the troubles to the back of his mind and believes they will not affect the golf.

"We don't see any danger at all. The course is a challenge to the good golfer. I don't think there's anything to be afraid of coming to south Armagh. The people here are no threat to anybody."

One problem is the continuous low-level flying by army helicopters. These have proved a nightmare for Mr Quinn's green-keeper who had to start the 18th green three times

after newly-sown grass seeds were blown away by helicopters landing near by. Another problem was to avoid the electricity pylons and overhead cables of the cross-border power line which have never been repaired since they were bombed by the IRA 15 years ago.

One of the first to hit a few practice balls was Mr Scamus Mallon, SDLP MP for Newry and Armagh. He said: "It's an imaginative and courageous venture and I have no doubt it will be a tremendous success. Like most cynics, the laugh will be on the other side of their faces because so many have applied for membership."

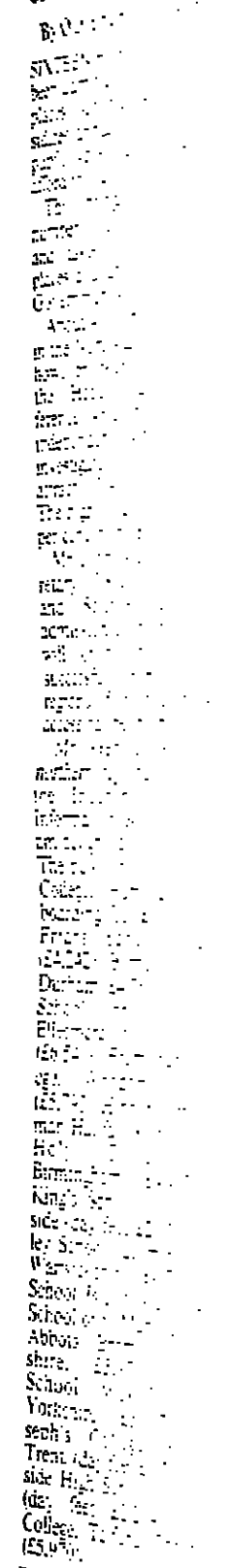
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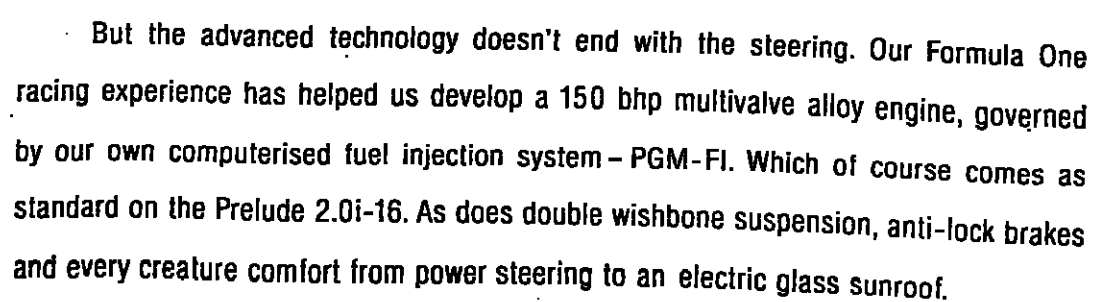
More join pupils aid scheme



# Campaign

## child road

By Philip...



Your local Honda dealer will be happy to arrange a test drive for you. After experiencing 4-wheel steering you probably won't want to drive any other car on the road.

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By Philip ...  
A WIDE-aimed government rate of taxation on children in order to be learning to ment toes.  
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## Schemes to end teacher shortages criticized

By David Tytler, Education Editor

**SCHEMES** to attract more teachers to the shortage subjects of mathematics, physics and technology are in danger of running out of steam, according to a survey commissioned by the Government but published by the Labour Party yesterday.

Mr Jack Straw, Labour's frontbench spokesman on education, said that he was releasing the final report from Bath University because the Government had placed it in the library of the House of Commons where it was unlikely to be seen by the public.

Mr John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said, however,

## More join pupils' aid scheme

By Our Education Editor

**SIXTEEN** more schools have been admitted to the assisted places scheme which subsidizes annual fees for bright pupils whose families cannot afford the full cost.

This brings to 294 the number of schools taking part, and takes the number of places available closer to the Government's 35,000 target.

About 4,000 places - many in the North-east - have not, however, been allocated and the Head Masters' Conference, which represents 230 independent schools, is to investigate why some areas attract fewer applications. The highest take-up rate is 99 per cent in the South-west.

Mr John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said: "The admission of the new schools will open up this highly successful scheme in certain regions of the country where access has been limited."

Mr Gerald Vinestock, northern regional director of the Independent Schools Information Service, said: "I am delighted."

The new schools are Ashville College, Harrogate, (annual boarding fees £5,355); Austin Friars School, Carlisle, (£4,242); Barnard Castle, Co Durham (£4,761); Derby High School, (day fees £2,700); Ellesmere College, Shropshire, (£6,540); Framlingham College, Woodbridge, Suffolk (£5,793); Hipperholme Grammar, Halifax, West Yorkshire; Holy Child School, Birmingham (£4,497); The King's School, North Tyne-side (day fees £2,175); Kingsley School, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, (£4,770); Ryde School, Isle of Wight (£4,791); School of S. Mary & S. Anne, Abbots Bromley, Staffordshire, (£5,970); Silcoates School, Wakefield, West Yorkshire, (£5,097); St Joseph's College, Stoke-on-Trent, (day fees £1,791); Tees-side High School, Cleveland, (day fees £2,214); Wrekin College, Telford, Shropshire, (£5,970).

that the report showed that the bursary scheme, providing £1,300 a year to pay for training, was attracting more teachers into the classroom. There was nothing sinister in not publishing the report.

The three-year investigation into government initiatives to meet teacher shortages shows that bursaries have persuaded experienced people to enter the classroom to teach mathematics, physics, and craft design and technology.

The researchers report that 55 per cent of recipients last year said they could not have entered teaching without the money.

Most teaching students, though, became aware of the bursary after they had considered entering teaching and in 1988-9 less than 10 per cent said they had chosen a particular course in order to qualify for the payment.

Despite the Government's efforts, the report concludes that "the number of students enrolling on pre-service teacher education course in the shortage subjects, after an initial boost, have failed to reach expectations or desired totals".

The report says new short courses have attracted recruits but the researchers add that some potential teachers remain lost to the profession because they do not qualify for funding from local authorities.

The retraining of existing teachers in a new subject is an effective way of overcoming shortages but the researchers say that a "pressing need exists for national funding of long-term retraining courses".

The researchers say that the most likely explanation for the fall-off in recruits is that the bursary may have attracted a "finite and diminishing pool" of mature students who saw the bursary as providing the chance to make the move. The report recommends that bursaries should continue at least for the time being.

The Department of Education and Science last night said the report was never intended for wider publication. "In any event the report confirms the effectiveness of the bursary scheme."

Mr Straw said, however, that the survey showed that too little was being done to alleviate teacher shortages. He said: "A crisis exists. What we need is clear action, not gimmicks. We need much greater openness from Mr MacGregor."



Mr MacGregor: Felt the report justified schemes

## Campaign to cut child road deaths

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

**A WIDE-RANGING** initiative aimed at cutting the alarming rate of deaths and injuries of children in road accidents is to be launched by the Government today.

Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Transport, and Mr John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science, are to unveil a three-pronged campaign in the face of statistics showing that one child in 15 will be killed or injured on the roads before their 16th birthday. The move is part of a continuous Department of Transport effort to improve safety on all forms of transport, and involves several government departments, the private sector and local authorities.

The first proposals involve an effort to improve road safety training for children below school age. A new national pre-school road safety club is expected to be set up, with the involvement of a leading insurance company. Children will be able to receive basic literature enabling them to begin road safety training at the earliest age possible.

Secondly, the Government is expected to outline plans to ensure that road safety is seen as part of children's education. Mr MacGregor is expected to explain how road safety can be integrated into the main subjects of the National Curriculum.

Finally, the transport de-

partment is to launch one of its most expensive publicity campaigns, involving posters and national advertising aimed at warning parents and motorists of the dangers to children on the roads.

While Britain's general road safety record compares well with other countries, ministers acknowledge the "horrific" statistics relating to child accidents. By far the largest number of children killed or injured are pedestrians.

Figures show most casualties occur among boys at about the age of seven and among girls at around 12. Most accidents are in urban areas.

The statistics also show 25 per cent of casualties involve child pedestrians on their way to or from school. The transport department has run a campaign highlighting the hazard but ministers believe the figures show the need to intensify pre-school and school training.

Last September legislation requiring children in rear car seats to wear safety-belts came into force and is having an effect in reducing casualties, according to the transport department. It estimates that up to 200 deaths or serious injuries will be prevented each year by the measure.

In a related development regulations preventing anyone under 21 supervising learner-drivers on their own will come into force in the summer.

## Green world shuts out 2CV

By Kevin Eason  
Motoring Correspondent

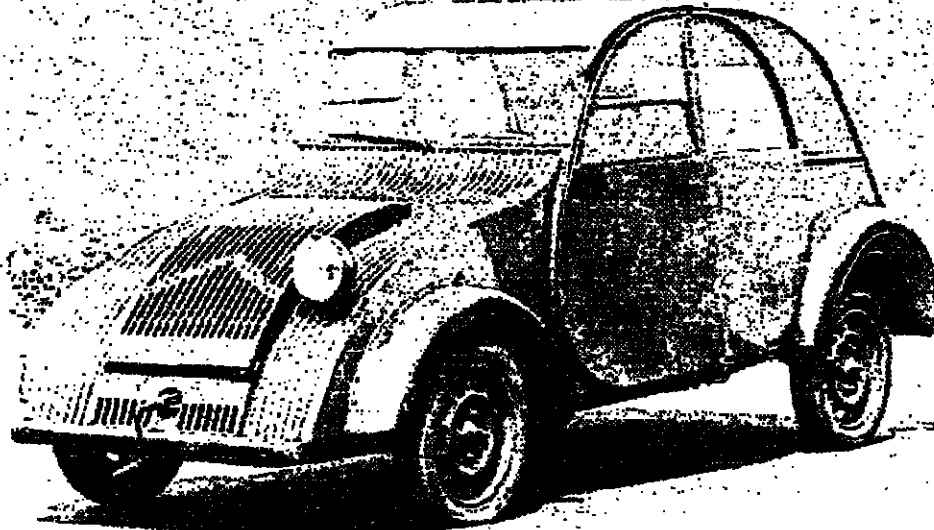
**THE Citroen 2CV**, the French "ugly duckling" identified as the car of the socially aware suburban classes, is to be killed off because it is not environmentally friendly.

The 2CV became a symbol of a generation of buyers who spurned the high-performance GTi in favour of the twin-cylinder 600cc 2CV to get to their Greenpeace meetings. Their concern for the planet, however, has led to the demise of the 2CV, which, falling foul of impending EC car emission regulations, will cease production within the next few weeks.

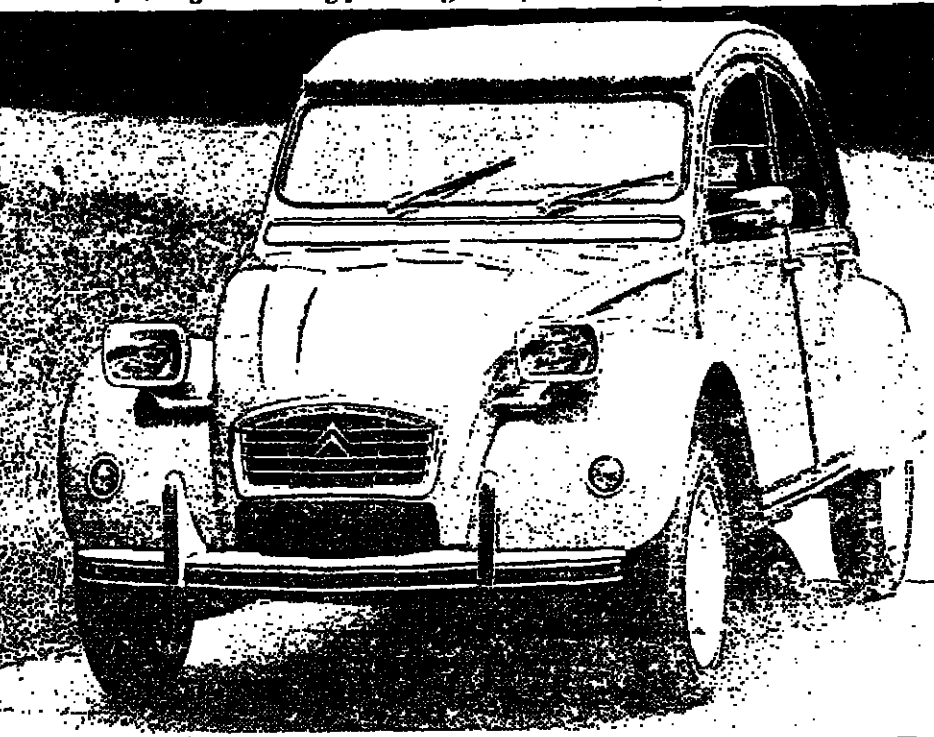
The latest 2CVs will run on unleaded petrol, but would by 1992 have to be fitted with catalytic converters to clean up noxious gases, an investment which the makers decided was not worth while. In Britain, the 1986 sales peak of 7,500 has dropped to 3,000 loyal customers. Assembly lines are expected to shut down in July.

However, enthusiasts will mourn the passing of a remarkable car, of which more than seven million have been sold. As manufacturers designed more and more technology into their cars, making them bigger and faster, the 2CV remained virtually unchanged, with its peculiar "sit up and beg" steering position, flip-up side windows, and tyres which seemed to have been misplaced from a motorcycle.

Citroen was never anxious to play up the "brown rice and sandals" image which the 2CV engendered. The company admitted yesterday, however: "There will be a lot of people who had real affection for the car and will be sad to hear it is going. But times change and products move on."



Plus ça change... The "ugly duckling" 2CV, which changed little over the years



## Cars most at risk of theft will be listed

By Our Motoring Correspondent

**A LIST** of cars most vulnerable to theft and break-ins is to be published by the Government, possibly by the end of the year.

The move, spearheaded by Mr John Patten, a Minister of State at the Home Office, is seen as the most radical attempt yet to force manufacturers to make vehicle security a top priority in designing a car. In Britain car crime costs up to £1 billion a year.

The move could mean that Britain will be the only market in the European Community with a full register of cars carrying crime ratings. Ministers have criticized car makers for their lack of progress in solving the crime problem, which accounts for one in four of thefts in Britain.

Nearly one million cars were broken into or stolen last year and 180 a day are stolen in London. In addition, six out of 10 missing credit cards and about 70 per cent of missing cheque books disappear during car thefts.

Mr Patten has called in a panel of experts to discover how models fare. The panel will study annual statistics of police forces throughout the country.

Manufacturers said yesterday that they would study the list with interest. Ford, Britain's biggest car company, which last year registered more than 600,000 cars in Britain, said last night: "We

have followed a policy of introducing better security systems on all our cars for some years, from which we believe the customer benefits."

Rover, which has been involved with the Home Office in a project to invent the "thief-proof" car, also claimed that the quality of its door locks were better than ever. The optimism of the manufacturers has not, however, been shared by fleet customers. They account for almost half of the two million new car sales annually.

The British Vehicle Rental and Leasing Association, which represents companies running almost 1.2 million company cars, withheld its prestigious annual anti-theft award in March. It said it believed that no manufacturer had done enough to protect its customers from crime.

Mr Fredy Dellis, managing director of Hertz International, the vehicle rental and leasing group which buys 23,000 cars a year in Britain, severely criticized manufacturers recently, claiming that security devices costing just a few pounds to fit on the assembly lines would save millions in foiled thefts.

He called for manufacturers to fit dead locks, which cannot be opened without a key even if a window is broken, and hardened steel keyhole plates. The cost per car to a manufacturer could be less than £10.

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**Policy of  
growth has  
failed poor  
MPs say**

A confidential Greenpeace memorandum to the committee, disclosed to *The Times*, argues that the EC only granted Britain lower targets for reducing sulphur emissions because of its reliance on domestic coal stocks. "In its negotiations over the large combustion plants directive



**By Staff Reporter**

"The Government has encouraged individuals to fit their own smoke alarms, but those most in need are not being targeted," Mr Richard Bate, the charity's assistant director, and joint author of the new guidance, says. "Requiring functioning smoke alarms in every home is the only effective way to save lives."

Home owners are three times more likely to have a smoke alarm than local authority tenants, the report says. "There would be a major increase in smoke alarm usage if a relatively small number of public sector landlords took effective action."

Pensioners and poor families are only half as likely to have smoke alarms as the national average, "a very clear discrepancy between: smoke alarm ownership and fire risk", the report says. The Government has fitted 10,000 detectors free in homes in Tameside, Greater Manchester, but it has said no further measures will be taken before that three-year experiment ends in December next year.

**CAUSES OF DOMESTIC FIRES**

Cause	Percentage
Misuse of equipment	43.23%
Careless handling of flammable or hot substances	10.89%
Playing with fire	6.07%
Placing articles too close to heat	5.60%
Non specified	5.60%
Arson	5.29%
Faulty appliances	10.73%
Faulty fuel supplies	12.60%

Source: National housing and Town Planning Council

Mr Nick Davies, aged 29, was shot dead in the driveway of his farm after he killed a dog which was worrying his sheep on Pantygwenh Farm, at Henllan, near Newcastle Emlyn, Dyfed.

His mother, Mrs Gaynor Davies, and brother, Iwan, aged 14, were shot in their caravan home near but escaped serious injury. They are recovering in hospital in Carmarthen. A man, who was being questioned at Dyfed-Powys police HQ in Carmarthen yesterday, is expected to appear in court today.

### Murder charge

Bernard McKullan, aged 22, of New Barnsley Crescent, Birmingham, was charged yesterday in connection with the murder of two Army corporals during an IRA funeral in the city more than two years ago. Two men have already been sentenced to a minimum of 25 years for the murders.

### Mud trap

Two people were rescued by an RAF helicopter yesterday after becoming trapped in mud at the mouth of the River Aa near Weston-super-Mare, Somerset.

### Noise watch

Plans for neighbourhood

## Cliff fall

A man who fell 50ft down a cliff face at Portland, Dorset, while on his way home from a

**Ferry strike**  
Irish Sea ferry services operated by the Dublin-based B&I shipping line were disrupted by unofficial strike

## Pole-axed

Telegraph poles were felled with an axe at Redlynch and Bruton, Somerset: one destroyed two caravans, the other blocked a road.

## Ethnic link in health spending

By Our Special  
Service  
Correspondent

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House, Folkestone  
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مكتبة الأصيل



# Hospital efficiency rises as treatments are priced

By Jill Sherman  
Social Services Correspondent

**ELDERLY** patients discharged from a Huddersfield hospital are being given extra social services support after doctors discovered that the condition of over half deteriorated in the week after they left hospital.

Consultants at the Royal Infirmary in Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, have also cut the length of stay of women being treated for gynaecological disorders, enabling the doctors to see 1,200 more women and free 30 beds for other departments.

The Royal Infirmary is one of six hospitals which, since 1986, have been testing the Government's resource management system. It involves doctors in management and gives them information about the costs and

benefits of the work they do. Doctors have been able to price treatments accurately for the first time by programming desk-top computers with information about patients from the moment they arrive. They know the costs of drugs, materials, diagnostic tests and staff time.

The resource management project has been the subject of controversy because it is now being extended to a further 130 hospitals before being fully evaluated.

Doctors are divided over its value. Some complain that the system is costly and diverts doctors from their main role of treating patients. They also see it as a threat to clinical freedom, arguing that doctors should not be influenced by costs. Those that have worked at the pilot hospitals are more enthusiastic, regarding it as a weapon to

argue for more resources. Huddersfield has the most advanced system in the country, and one of the cheapest, having cost about £1.5 million to set up. There have already been tangible patient benefits. For example, women attending as outpatients for breast cancer screening can get the results of their X-ray, follow-up cytology and counselling on the same morning.

In the past, most women would have had to wait at least seven days before the handwritten information from doctors in different departments was collated. "It cuts down on the administration and unnecessary anxiety for the women who are screened," Mr Richard Sainsbury, general surgeon, said.

Mr Peter Jackson, a consultant gynaecologist, says he has changed treatments for menstrual disorders

by reducing the number of hysterectomies he performs. By carrying out surgery on the lining of the uterus instead, the woman's hospital stay drops from six to two days and costs decrease on average by £260 per patient to £750.

He has reduced the average length of stay for gynaecological operations from five days to three, enabling him to treat many more patients and allowing 30 of his beds to be freed for orthopaedic patients. The number of patients he treated on a 30-bed gynaecological ward rose from 2,000 a year in 1987 to 3,200 last year.

Dr Rachel Angus, a consultant at the hospital's department of medicine for the elderly, has started developing "outcome" measures which show how patients progress after they are discharged from hospital. Patients are rated on their

ability to walk, dress, communicate, bath themselves and manage stairs. These functions are rated when they arrive at hospital, the day of discharge, seven days after they leave and six weeks later.

She found, for example, that people over 75 who have suffered from a fractured femur are generally more dependent when they leave hospital than when they arrive and half of these patients deteriorate further in the next seven days. After six weeks only 53 per cent are judged as better.

As a result, the Royal Infirmary has made arrangements with social services departments for a home-care organizer, funded jointly, to provide extra support for those who have just left hospital.

Detailed costings of NHS treatments will be vital for an internal market to start operating eff-

ectively as part of the health service reforms.

For the first three or four years most hospitals, however, will be hampered by using aggregated data based on specialties rather than individual treatments. But the Government expects all 260 large acute hospitals to start developing resource management by 1992 and to be able to price their treatments accurately by 1995 or 1996.

Miss Sheila Masters, director of finance from the NHS management executive, insists that resource management must be allowed to develop at its own pace, separate from the NHS reforms. In reality, however, it is likely that the reforms will only start having an impact on the health service once all hospitals have this advanced information technology to enable them to take decisions about care.

## Computer might cut smear test errors

By Nick Nuttall  
Technology Correspondent

**SCIENTISTS** have designed an automated computer system for cervical cancer screening which could cut the number of women mistakenly given a clean bill of health.

The system, which is undergoing clinical trials in the United States, reduces fatigue in laboratory technicians which can result in errors, it is claimed. On a busy day technicians can scrutinize 100 samples containing more than 100,000 cells for the handful that may indicate early onset of cancer.

The demands of the job are such that as many as a third of pre-cancerous conditions are missed, studies indicate.

It has proved difficult to design a computer capable of distinguishing pre-cancerous cells from overlapping healthy ones. Automated systems have also attempted to dispense with the human element. The new system is a compromise between man and machine, *Scientific American* reports.

Called Papnet, its success lies in a computer technology called neural networks - systems which learn from experience and excel in pin pointing subtle patterns. The system identifies suspect cells for a laboratory worker to study.

Papnet is the brainchild of scientists at Neurological Systems, of Suffern, New York. The United States government has so far licensed the use of the system for retesting smear tests.

● Cancer patients may receive better treatment as a result of insights into how tumours become resistant to drugs (Thomson Prentice writes).

Researchers have found that some drugs may be more helpful if used before radiotherapy rather than afterwards, which is the conventional approach. Dr Bridget Hill and colleagues at the Imperial Cancer Research Fund in London have discovered evidence that irradiation of tumour cells can "switch on" a cell protein, called P-glycoprotein, which acts as a pump to expel the drugs before they can take effect.

Drug resistance is one of the biggest obstacles to developing cures for cancer. While many patients respond well to initial treatment, the disease often recurs because not all the cancer cells have been destroyed. The finding could help identify patients who are more likely to respond to some drugs than others.

## Policy of growth has failed poor, MPs say

By John Lewis

**GOVERNMENT** claims that low-income groups have prospered as a result of the thriving, free-enterprise policy of Mrs Thatcher are exploded in a devastating Social Services Select Committee report to be published tomorrow.

The entire government case that high growth has helped poorer families by the "trickle down" theory is based on wrong calculations, according to research carried out for the select committee by the Institute of Fiscal Studies. Government statisticians made a serious mistake in calculating housing benefits.

In a unanimous report the select committee points out that the new information is crucial in judging the Government's stewardship. It says bluntly that the Government can no longer claim living standards of the poor rise automatically with growth. The committee is chaired by the Labour MP Mr Frank Field, but has a built-in Conservative majority.

The original data on which ministers have based their position showed that from

1981 to 1985 living standards for the whole population went up by 4.8 per cent while those for the poorest 10 per cent jumped by 8.4 per cent.

The corrected figures demonstrate, however, that living standards for the whole population increased by 5.4 per cent but rose by only 2.6 per cent for the poorest 10 per cent.

The disclosure could hardly have come at a worse time for the Government when it is defending the poll tax against accusations that it is particularly unfair to low-income groups. It will put additional pressure on ministers to do considerably more for the low-paid.

The disclosure also raises new questions about the government view that concentration on growth, freeing the economy and cutting red tape ensures that the poor will be dragged up as well. Arguments that the policy has still to work through the system also begin to look thin after 11 years.

Conservatives on the committee backed the report on the grounds that it was important to have the correct information and that, if the situation was worse than had been thought, the report should be published so that what was wrong could be put right. No one is suggesting that the Government has deliberately massaged the figures simply that officials have made a serious error.

The first attempts to measure the effect of policies on the poor dates from when Lord Wilson was Prime Minister and ministers used the annual family expenditure survey to try to discover how low income groups were doing. Labour published a head-counting exercise of those living at or above benefit levels. It showed a growing army of poor.

Mrs Thatcher decided to publish the figures every other year to obtain greater accuracy and then in 1988 replaced them with another measure looking purely at living standards and ignoring benefits.

The Social Services Committee argued that the old figures should continue as a check. When the Government refused to do so, it commissioned the Institute of Fiscal Studies to do the job.

It was then that the error in government calculations was found. It affected earlier assumptions and ministers are being forced to revise tables.

Leading article, page 15



Frank Field: Tory majority on his committee

## Ethnic link in health spending

By Our Social Services Correspondent

**FAMILY** doctors may be "undertreating" ethnic minorities in deprived areas, particularly in inner London, a report claims today.

The report from the King's Fund Institute and the Centre for Health Economics calls for an investigation into the apparent link between low prescribing costs in some areas of high deprivation with large populations of African, West Indian or Asian origin.

Statistics compiled by the Department of Health show that in general factors associated with deprivation, including high unemployment, seem to be positively linked with raised NHS prescribing and dispensing rates. High spending on drugs is found, for example, in such less well-off northern areas as Liverpool and Rochdale.

The report, however, points to a negative association between the proportion of new Commonwealth and Pakistani origin and overall spending on medicine. London family practitioner committee areas such as Camden and Islington and the Lambeth, Southwark and Lewisham area - which are rated as the second and third most deprived areas in England - are also among the lowest four drug spenders, well below the national average of £39 a head.

Medicines, the NHS and Europe by David Taylor and Alan Maynard (Bailey Distribution Ltd, Dept D/KPF, Warner House, Folkestone, Kent. £5.95 plus 60p p&dp)

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Part of the deserted South Mill at Manningham Mills, which, with their bulk, their Italianate architecture and their ornate, 250ft campanile chimney, dominate Bradford, a testimony to Victorian ambition. The Victoria and Albert Museum wants to open a Northern branch at the site.

Designed for the inventor and entrepreneur Samuel Crompton Lister, they date from 1870, when they were the largest silk mills in the world, employing, at their height, over 7,000 people (Peter Davenport writes). However, Lister and Co's manufacturing on the site is now concentrated in the North Mill, and, in order to conserve the South Mill, with dramatic facades reminiscent of Venice or Florence, the company intends to refurbish and re-develop the 12-acre complex in a £70 million scheme.

The proposed Lister City is intended to retain the magnificent multi-floored buildings and to make them as vital to Bradford's future as they were to its commercial past.

The Victoria and Albert Museum is discussing funding with Bradford City Council, the Department of the Environment and the Office of Arts and Libraries. The "V&A in the North" is almost certain to include an important permanent display of treasures from the museum's South Asian Collections.

Yesterday, Mrs Jacqueline Bond, of the Lister City Project Office in the South Mill was on duty to provide information to visitors to an exhibition on the scheme.

## Pedal power seen as the right route

By Tom Giles

**PROPOSALS** for a 1,000-mile network of bicycle routes in London are to be announced next month giving campaigners hope that increased national support for pedal-power will ease urban congestion and stem a sharp rise in cycling accidents.

After the development of cycle lanes in towns such as Cambridge, York and Milton Keynes, city planners throughout Britain are examining their potential as a clean alternative to car travel.

The Department of Transport has given its conditional backing to London's cycling scheme, to be drawn up by local authorities and pressure groups such as the London Cycling Campaign. Friends of the Earth and Transport 2000. Supporters say that it could encourage 500,000 more Londoners on to bicycles by the end of the decade and raise the proportion of journeys into the capital made by cycle from 4 per cent to 10 per cent of the total.

Miss Kate Toller, of the London Cycling Campaign, said that Britain's expenditure on cycling was well below that of many European cities. Public investment in Copenhagen, for example, had resulted in bicycles accounting for up to 30 per cent of road traffic. She added: "There is clearly a transport crisis with congest-

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# Latvia opens dialogue with Kremlin negotiators

From Anatol Lieven, Riga

AS THE new Latvian government struggles to develop a programme for administering a country which it only partially controls, informal discussions between Moscow and the Latvian government appear to have begun. The new Latvian first deputy president, and Popular Front chairman, Mr Dainis Ivars, said yesterday that two veteran Latvian negotiators, Mr Ilmar Bisers and Mr Mavrik Wulsons, had been in touch by telephone with officials close to President Gorbachev who are believed to include Mr Valentin Falin.

Mr Bisers said that he had told the Soviet officials: "Our declaration was not for today, but for the future. We have not declared immediate independence." He asked them to inform Mr Gorbachev of this, and to request him not to take up any position on the basis of information from men like the local Soviet Communist Party leader, Mr Alfred Rubiks, "whose objectivity cannot be trusted".

According to Mr Ivars, "the only request on the Soviet side was that we should provide them with a thorough explanation of our declaration." Such an explanation, signed by President Anatoli Gorbunov, was sent to Moscow yesterday.

After setting out the basic

points of the Latvian declaration, the letter concludes: "We express the certainty that the character of our declaration, its retention of existing constitutional norms, and its sincere desire to respect the interests of the USSR will receive your understanding and open the way to a fruitful dialogue in the spirit of honest co-operation between equals."

Mr Ivars said that the Latvian government will shortly be sending a delegation to Moscow, "though not tomorrow, because of the holiday" — the two-day long celebration of the Soviet victory over Nazi Germany. "I don't think that the Soviet Government has any reason not to receive our delegation."

Echoing the line taken by the Lithuanian leadership, Mr Ivars said: "We are willing to negotiate on all points concerning the interests of the Soviet Union, but we will not deviate from the declaration we have made."

Artillery fire has boomed intermittently across Riga in recent days as Soviet gunners rehearse with blank shots for the salutes which tomorrow will celebrate the 45th anniversary of the Nazi defeat. On Friday night and Monday morning, the Army held full scale rehearsals for the parade on the embankment of the River Daugava. Many Latvians see this as intimidation, but Mr Ivars was anxious to play down the parade's significance.

"We are trying to interpret this liberally, simply as a celebration of victory over the Nazis, and we want the whole population of Latvia to interpret it this way," he said. "We hope that long enough has now passed since the war, and that next year the parade will be without weapons, and the year after that, that it will cease altogether."

He called for the "internationalization" of the Baltic question. "We want the question of the Baltic to be included in the Helsinki II negotiations," he said. "We want the four powers of the anti-Hitler coalition to negotiate an end to the occupation of the Baltic, in the same way that they ended the occupation of Austria after the war."

Meanwhile yesterday the parliament in Riga confirmed in office the new prime minister, the Popular Front deputy chairman, Dr Ivar Godmanis. In his speech before the vote, Mr Godmanis said: "The first duty of the government is not to allow a sudden economic deterioration. The government would pursue economic talks with Moscow, with the other Baltic republics, and with individual republics and enterprises across the Soviet Union."

"Armenia was a test that showed his (Gorbachev's) demagoguery is not in step with his actions. A real perestroika movement was crushed in favour of a constitution created by Stalin." (Reuter)

Artistic freedom, page 18



Medals on parade: Soviet Second World War veterans bearing their medals with pride in the Kremlin yesterday. They were being addressed by President Gorbachev at the first formal event of a week's celebrations marking the 45th anniversary of the end of the war in Europe

## Professor finds willing pupils on Romanian election trail

From Christopher Walker, Vaslui, Romania

IN LESS than five months, Mr Petre Roman, the man most likely to emerge as Romania's first freely-elected Prime Minister in more than 50 years, has been transformed from an obscure professor of hydraulic engineering into a politician tailor-made for the television age. Among women of all ages, the most sought-after memento of the turbulent campaign has been his signed photograph, smiling and clutching a rose, the symbol of the National Salvation Front for which he has emerged as the main crowd-puller alongside Mr Ion Iliescu, the interim President.

While some other Front leaders have had to play down dubious past service for the old Communist Party, Mr Roman stuck to the academic world before the revolution. He came from a famous Communist family and was a party member until December 19, when he tore up his card in protest at the shooting of unarmed civilians.

On the campaign trail, his reception has been adulatory. Members of his party were twice nearly crushed as he toured Moldavia at the weekend, drawing crowds of up to 30,000. Although tell-tale buses and lorries showed that the Front had not forgotten the organizing skills of the defunct Communist Party, there was no denying the passion of the voters for a man who played a prominent television role in the revolution.

As the many incidents of violence have shown, the average Romanian's idea of democracy — especially in rural areas — is not that of a politics seminar in Britain. When I asked one voter whether Mr Ion Iliescu, candidate for the rival National

Peasant Party, one of the main right-wing groupings, would win a similar reception, he replied: "I will be reaching enthusiastically for my crowbar if he comes here."

Cocking a snook at demonstrators in Bucharest who have accused the Front of selling out to neo-Communism and promoting Kremlin-approved policies, Mr Roman told shoppers cramming a huge precinct in Vaslui: "The facts cannot be erased with words. Whatever those demonstrators may say, we know who really fought the revolution."

One campaign official said: "These people have got light, heat and food, which did they not have before. They have also got a genuine hero. I defy anyone seeing this type of crowd to claim that all that enthusiasm is a result of manipulation."

Dressed in a fashionably cut check suit, which stood out among the 1950s clothing of his supporters, Mr Roman displayed political skills acquired during his brief period as interim Prime Minister and economic trouble-shooter for the provisional administration. His words were often drowned by deafening chants from the flower-waving voters.

"We want you. We want you. We will not leave you," the crowd chanted, before mobbing Mr Roman's party, which included a black-robed Archbishop from the Orthodox Romanian Church, a Front candidate for the Senate.

A reporter who asked cynically about his attendance at

the televised re-sanctification of the first church to be reopened in the area since Ceausescu's downfall, was told by Mr Roman: "There is a long tradition in Romania of the Church playing a part in the elections."

Mr Roman, aged 43, is half-Jewish, as his father Mr Valter Roman (nee Ernest Neulander), a member of the Romanian Communist Party who fought against the Fascists in the Spanish Civil War, was descended from an old rabbinical family in Transylvania. Despite the ugly mood of anti-Semitism now growing in Romania, Mr Roman has so far escaped the worst snarls.

Just as the revolution was largely conducted on television, so the election is being fought mainly on the single, controlled channel which still broadcasts from studios in Bucharest. That is another reason why Mr Roman has become an election star.

Speaking on his campaign aircraft, a well-equipped, if antiquated Antonov-24 "liberated" from Ceausescu's fleet and now rented out, Mr Roman explained why he had reversed his decision announced so firmly in January not to stand for office. "I

realized that I had a moral contract with those who believed in me and for whom I was a hope during the darkest days of the revolution," he said. "There was also mounting public pressure and pressure from within the Front."

In the wake of the revolution, Mr Roman said, most voters were looking for "political stability and a quiet life". He admitted that, owing to the sweeping allegations about voter manipulation, some parties would find it "very hard" to accept the election results as fair.

He angrily dismissed allegations that the Front was perpetuating communism. "I am convinced that communism is dead, not only in Romania, but all over Eastern Europe," he said. "In Romania, this system had no benefit, economic, social, or moral, and the horrors of the Ceausescu era were no accident. They were a product of the system."

Mr Roman (who speaks fluent English, French, and Spanish) predicted that, in the event of a Front victory, rapid privatization of parts of the economy would be needed.

"We will have to go very quickly for privatization and the introduction of the market economy in certain areas, notably tourism, external and internal trade, and construction. There will also have to be swift decentralization," he said. "But we shall not be permitting the type of 'savage liberalism' you have in Britain. We shall be seeking a model with more emphasis on social protection, like Sweden or France."



## Iliescu to begin talks with Bucharest demonstrators

From Our Special Correspondent, Bucharest

TALKS are to open today in an attempt to end 16-day anti-government demonstrations that have blocked the commercial centre of Bucharest and overshadowed the general election scheduled for May 20.

Mr Iliescu, the interim President and one of the main targets of the round-the-clock cries of defiance from the protesters, has offered to negotiate with leaders of the various groups organizing the protest, which is taking place on the exact spot where scores of students were gunned down during the December revolution. His offer came after the protesters spread to other cities.

The demonstrators want to prevent leading members of the old Romanian Communist Party from standing for office in the elections. One attempt to remove them by force was abandoned last month. Since then, they have staged almost continuous street theatre, depicting the National Salvation Front led by Mr Iliescu, the leading candidate for President, as the old Communist Party in disguise.

About 200 students and workers have pitched tents on lawns around University Square, and barricades have been thrown up. The university buildings, where anti-Ceausescu slogans were once daubed, are now plastered with anti-Iliescu slogans.

A leading member of the

Front said the provisional Government had ruled out any change in the electoral law. "There is no question of rewriting the rules about who can stand. That is out of the question. The law has been passed by a large majority in the provisional Parliament."

The demonstrators have been demanding that former leading members of the Communist Party be barred from standing for public office for 10 years, a ban that would include Mr Iliescu. They have also been calling for a postponement in the parliamentary elections until September and an end to state control over Romania's single television channel.

Even its heroes are different. In the southern German home of Bertolt Brecht, the left-wing dramatist, they are grudging about their most famous son who they feel betrayed them by going to live in the East after his exile. In East Berlin, however, he is a much-loved figure: the desecration of his grave at the weekend outraged the city and may have propelled a few wavering communists back to the party.

Both Berlins now have popular Social Democratic mayors determined to establish a future united Berlin as an SDP stronghold.

## Voters in Berlin buck the trend

From Ann McElvoy, East Berlin

RED Berlin lived up to its century-long reputation in the East's first free local elections on Sunday by bucking the national trend and returning a Social Democratic (SDP) mayor, and boosting support for the communist Party of Democratic Socialism.

The Christian Democrats (CDU), which reinforced its position as the dominant party nationwide, struggled on 17 per cent in the capital — a performance roughly comparable to that of the communists elsewhere.

The psephology of Berlin has always been at odds with the historical trends of the century, and it has reverted immediately to type with the SDP and communists emerging as the main political forces from both the general and local elections.

The 30 per cent communist vote in East Berlin endures conservative southerners who are unable to understand how the city can vote for the successor party of the repressive former regime. Nationwide, the party gained 14 per cent and looks more resilient than most other reformed communist parties in the Eastern bloc.

The feat by Herr Gregor Gysi, the party's personable leader, is remarkable. In December, he publicly topped Herr Egon Krenz when the transition leader failed to respond to the demands of the baying crowds, and promised "to sweep away the Stalinist past".

East Berlin was the capital of socialist bureaucracy and is no doubt still winning votes of gratitude from the system-servers who migrated here to pursue careers in the Orwellian ministries and mysterious communist party institutes.

But it also has a more durable left-wing tradition, more reminiscent of pre-war days than the post-war German trend of working by consensus.

Even its heroes are different. In the southern German home of Bertolt Brecht, the left-wing dramatist, they are grudging about their most famous son who they feel betrayed them by going to live in the East after his exile. In East Berlin, however, he is a much-loved figure: the desecration of his grave at the weekend outraged the city and may have propelled a few wavering communists back to the party.

Both Berlins now have popular Social Democratic mayors determined to establish a future united Berlin as an SDP stronghold.

## Social democrats form party in Moscow

From Mary Dejevsky, Moscow

LESS than a week after carrying its banner proudly into Red Square for the May Day parade, the Social Democratic Association of Russia has constituted itself as a fully-fledged political party. More than 250 representatives from all over the Russian Federation, and a number of foreign guests, met in Moscow at the weekend to decide the form and structure of the new party. Its existence was finally announced late on Sunday night.

The Social Democratic Party is the second party to have been established since the full Soviet Parliament passed amendments to the constitution removing the Communist Party's monopoly in March. The Liberal Democratic Party held its founding congress last month. A third party, the Russian — or National — Democratic Party (the name has not been finalized) is also in gestation.

At present, neither of the new parties presents any real competition to the Communist Party. Each is small and has a following dominated by intellectuals. Moreover, in a beginning which is regrettably all too characteristic of new political groupings in the Soviet Union, the founding of the SDP was delayed by disagreement on organization between delegates from Moscow and Leningrad.

The Leningraders wanted pluralism of opinion within the party; the Muscovites wanted a system akin to majority decisions being binding on all. The party now says it stands for ideological pluralism, a multi-party system and a mixed economy that would combine the right to private ownership with the best possible social guarantees for the underprivileged.

The establishment of the Russian or National Democratic Party is in the hands of a steering committee chaired by Mr Nikolai Travkin. The party will comprise those reformist Communists who were members of the Democratic Platform and who chose to leave the Communist Party altogether after the group was condemned as "schismatic" by the Central Committee.

Other potential members are adherents of the inter-regional group of parliamentary deputies, founded by Mr Boris Yeltsin. This group has had several inconclusive debates about turning itself into a party.

As the leading force in the umbrella group, the Bloc for a Democratic Russia, the group's candidates swept the board of many local councils in the March elections, taking control of Moscow, Leningrad and several other cities. If Communist members of the bloc were to leave and join forces with the incipient party, the Russian Democrats would probably offer the most convincing challenge to the Communist Party.

Mr Travkin, a former head of one of Moscow's largest construction trusts, is making a determined effort to win the votes of Soviet workers. Over the May Day public holiday he addressed the first all-union congress of workers' movements and organizations in the Urals city of Kemerovo. He warned delegates of the opposition they might face from the official trade unions, saying that the official media would present them as extremists.

According to a hostile account of his speech published in the *Rabochaya Tribuna*, a daily paper with a readership of mainly blue-collar and manual workers, Mr Travkin had exhorted delegates to return home and urge their fellow workers to leave the Communist Party for his Russian Democratic Party.

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A taste of Europe: Mr Quayle enjoying a pastry in Rome's Via Veneto before flying to London

## Quayle flies in for talks with Thatcher

By Michael Kuiper, Diplomatic Correspondent

MR DAN Quayle, the United States Vice-President, arrived in London last night at the head of a delegation which included Miss Susan Eisenhower, the granddaughter of the late president, her Russian husband Mr Roald Sagdeyev, a member of the People's Committee of the Soviet Union, and Mr William Rogers, the former US Secretary of State in the Reagan Administration.

Mr Quayle is on his first visit to Europe as Vice-President as part of celebrations marking the 100th anniversary of the birth of President Eisenhower.

Mr Quayle and other members of the delegation attended a private dinner hosted by Mrs Thatcher at Chequers last night after their arrival from Italy and will have further talks with the Prime Minister at Downing Street today. The Vice-President will have separate talks with Mr Douglas

Hurd, the Foreign Secretary. US officials said the discussions would focus on German unification, the changes in Eastern Europe and the future of Nato.

In Rome yesterday Mr Quayle visited the aircraft carrier USS Eisenhower and addressed the Italian Parliament, where he called for Western support for the democratic changes under way in Eastern Europe.

"These revolutionary gains are fragile. They need not just our encouragement, but our sustained support," he said. "I am here to tell you that the Government and people of the United States are determined to help this democratic revolution."

He called on the Nato allies to consider new tasks for the alliance in a changing Europe. "As Nato adopts new missions, and Europe faces new challenges, the 'European pillar' of the alliance is likely to be strengthened," he said.

"We welcome greater co-operative and consultative measures among our European allies. We recognize that these efforts will help keep America in Europe, not out."

Signor Giulio Andreotti, the Italian Prime Minister, told Mr Quayle that during the process of increased integration, Europe had no intention of weakening links with the US. "We must act in such a way that Americans feel increasingly an integral part of Europe and feel indissolubly linked to us," he said.

In London today Mr Quayle is scheduled to host a breakfast meeting with a cross-section of political and business leaders, attend a lunch given by Mr Henry Carto, the American Ambassador, and attend a parliamentary reception hosted by Mr Bernard Weatherill, the Speaker, before flying to Paris for the final leg of the tour.

Arms talks offer to allow Soviet fear on German

US general military over

Mongolian protests called off

Swapo murder charge dropped

Rioters ignore appeal by Rob



# Arms talks offer to allay Soviet fear on Germany

From Ian Murray, Bonn

EARLY negotiations on the strength of a united Germany's armed forces are being offered to the Soviet Union as part of a Nato-inspired package designed to calm the Kremlin's fears about security. The negotiations, which would also involve levels of British and other Nato forces in Europe, are expected to be added to the arms reduction talks in Vienna.

They answer the plea for help from Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, at last weekend's meeting here to discuss the reunification of Germany. Emotions would boil over in his country, he said, unless it was confident that its security was not endangered.

As one of the victorious Second World War allies, the Soviet Union retains a veto over German unity, but it has made clear it will not use this provided it is sure its security is not endangered.

Mr Shevardnadze had little or no choice when he accepted the inevitability of a united Germany as a member of Nato. The democratic decision to merge the divided nation could not be denied, nor could its will to be a member of the alliance.

West Germany has no intention of leaving Nato, and when East Germany accedes to its Basic Law the united country will be bound by all its existing international treaties and obligations, including Nato membership. Faced with this situation, Mr Shevardnadze exchanged his veto for assurances of security and pledges of economic support.

In return he has already been told that the Soviet Union will be able to retain its residual rights and responsibilities over Germany as one of the four allies, for as long as it takes to negotiate the security guarantees and agree-

ments. This means that the Soviet Union will continue to be able to keep troops on East German territory while Nato cannot.

This in no way means that Germany would not be part of Nato, although it does mean that Nato's future, along with Germany's part in it, is on the negotiating table. These talks could take two or three years, leading to the eventual withdrawal of Soviet troops from East German territory.

Britain, the United States and France would also keep their rights over Germany for the transitional period, but these would have only nominal importance. West German territory would remain under Nato protection.

A united Germany will thus not gain total sovereignty until the Soviet Union is satisfied with all the security arrangements. One consequence could well be that a decision to move the capital of a united Germany to Berlin will have to be deferred until the end of the transitional period.

West Germany is willing to make this sacrifice in the interests of a stable reunification process. "In two or three years the world will have changed, but for the transitional period the Soviets must have an answer for their security and we understand that," a diplomat said.

Although the two Germanies will be one before the extended Vienna talks are complete, President Gorbachev will be able to tell his critical public that the process to control the strength of its Army is under way.

● WASHINGTON: A united Germany should not only join Nato, but should also be a base for nuclear weapons under its control, Herr Manfred Wörner, the organization's Secretary-General, said yesterday. (Reuters)

## US general seeks military overhaul

From Martin Fletcher, Washington

GENERAL Colin Powell, chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, has called for an exhaustive review of military strength and strategies which he believes could lead to a 25 per cent cut in the Pentagon budget.

In an unusually frank interview in the *Washington Post* yesterday, he said that every single weapons system, military base and operational doctrine, as well as personnel levels, should be re-evaluated in the light of the end of the Cold War. Whatever had been rendered obsolete by the crumbling Warsaw Pact threat

should be modified or eliminated. Within four to five years US military might could be cut by a quarter.

General Powell mentioned no cash figures, but such a retrenchment would mean a cut of about \$75 billion (£45 billion) in an annual budget of roughly \$300 billion.

He also foresaw the day when the US would cut its troop levels in Europe below 225,000, the level the Administration presently maintains is the minimum. But he said a call by Senator Sam Nunn, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, for a reduction to 75,000 was "much too premature". If there was going to be a US military presence in Europe it had to be "a force that looks as if it can fight".

General Powell's interview came just a few days after the House of Representatives and the Senate Budget Committee - seeking a "peace dividend" - approved plans for \$24 billion and \$21 billion cuts respectively in the \$307 billion military spending authority for 1991 requested by the Administration. General Powell indicated that a thorough review could help fend off such cuts, which he clearly believes are too deep at this early stage. "You're going to break this force if you ask us to do it too quickly."

He acknowledged that it was no longer necessary to view the Soviet Union through "these 'evil empire' filters that we used for many years". The US would have up to a year of "political and strategic warning" of a Soviet offensive in Europe.

General Powell envisioned a US force of four main components: a "heavy" force, with tactical nuclear weapons, capable of fighting a medium- to high-intensity conflict in Europe; a lighter force in the Pacific; a US-based contingency force for rapid deployment; and a "strategic" nuclear force.

## Mongolia protests called off

Peking - Nearly a week of sit-ins and hunger strikes across Mongolia ended after the country's largest opposition group, The Mongolian Democratic Association, agreed to join a government advisory body, Mongolian radio said yesterday.

The advisory council would be allowed to draft bills and suggestions to submit to Mongolia's Communist-dominated legislature.

Tass reported yesterday that the opposition and authorities also agreed to set up a full-time parliament to be elected by a secret ballot held in the current legislature. (AP)

## Swapo murder charge dropped

Windhoek - Mr Donald Acheson, the Irishman held in custody since last September after the assassination of Anton Lubowski, the Swapo leader, was freed yesterday and the murder charge against him dropped.

Mr Acheson's passport was returned to him and his lawyer said he would probably fly to West Germany on Thursday before returning to South Africa. (AP)

## Rioters ignore appeal by Roh

Seoul - President Roh asked South Koreans yesterday to help prevent the nation from slipping into "chaos", but dissidents and radical students stepped up anti-government protests, with riots in several cities.

In the port of Ulsan workers armed with petrol bombs at the top of a crane in South Korea's biggest shipyard started talks with management after more than a week aloft. (AP, Reuters)



General Powell: Review of US military strength



Envoys of youth: Yulia Prokhorova, left, and Margaret Poteyeva, both aged 11 and from the Soviet Union, who were among 1,000 youngsters at the fifth annual World Children's Day in the UN headquarters in New York

## Foreign ministers grapple with EC political union

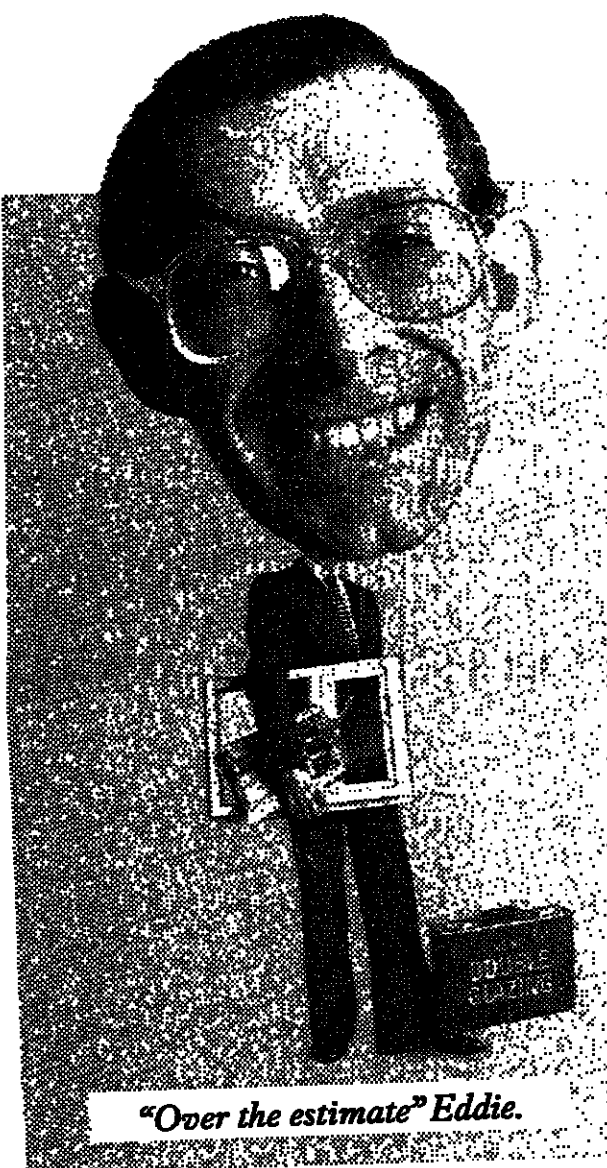
From Michael Binyon, Brussels

EUROPEAN Community foreign ministers yesterday held their first discussion here on whether subsidiarity should be officially written into the text of any treaty change when political union is discussed in December.

The outline of M Giscard d'Estaing's report was presented to the European Parliament's committee on institutional affairs last month. It says the EC should evolve towards a decentralized federation, and proposes that member states should have exclusive competence in a range of fields, including culture, education, sport, public freedoms, public order, civil and penal law. The report also proposes turning the EC Court of Justice into a real Supreme Court, able to decide in cases involving the sharing and distribution of powers.

The European Parliament has already defined what it calls the "essential core responsibilities", which must now be strengthened to form the basis of a European union. They are: economic and monetary union, especially as it impinges on the social and environmental sectors; foreign policy, including security; and European citizenship, including the protection of fundamental rights.

Subsidiarity is the term used to mean leaving to member states all issues that can best be dealt with at a national level, while allowing Brussels to decide only matters that require Community-wide regulations. At the heart of their discussions over the next two months will be the issue of "subsidiarity", a concept that will also be debated by the European Parliament next week when it considers European political union. Parliament is soon to publish its own report on "subsidiarity", drafted by M Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, the former French President and leader of the liberal group at Strasbourg. It is likely to form the basis of the consultations between parliamentary leaders and Community foreign ministers on May 17, when MEPs give their views on how Parliament can be involved in the inter-governmental conference on political union at the end of the year.



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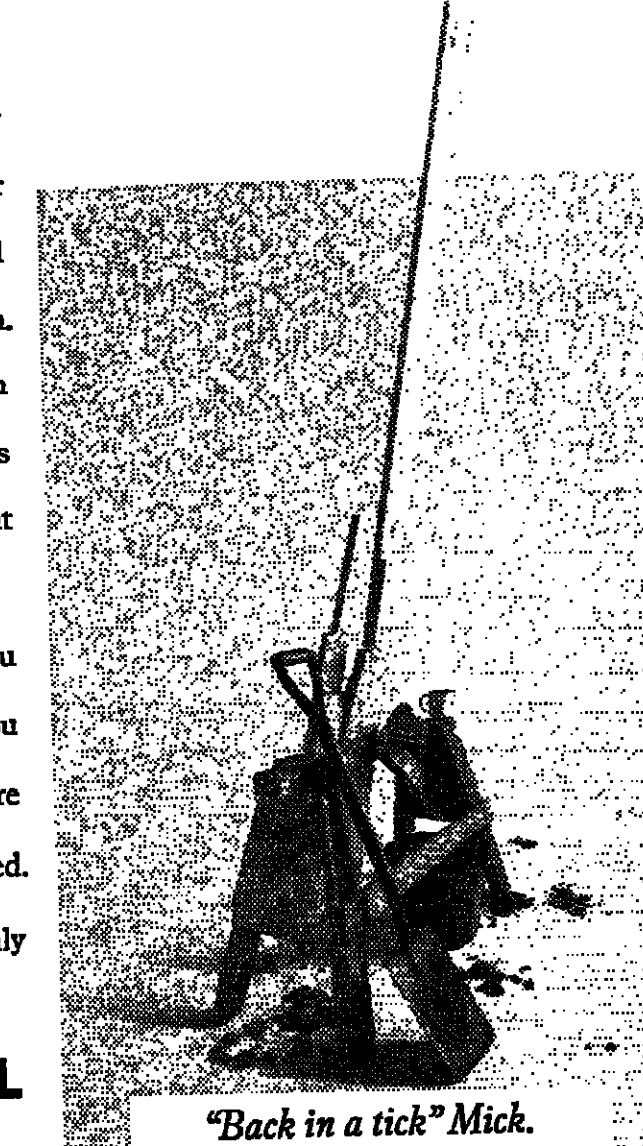
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# Iran weighs new peace proposals by Iraqis

By Hahzir Teimourian

IRANIAN leaders were yesterday discussing what position to adopt regarding radical new peace proposals by Iraq. These suggest that the Algiers treaty of 1975 — which delineated the 700-mile course of the two countries' common border — form the basis of a pact to put a formal end to the Gulf War of 1980-1988.

The proposals apparently satisfy Iran's key objective for signing a peace treaty with Baghdad. An informed source in Tehran said the initial reaction of his country's leaders was "positive".

The proposals were contained in a letter from Iraq's President Saddam Hussein to President Rafsanjani, his Iranian counterpart, and were conveyed to Tehran late last week, apparently through Se-

ñor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the United Nations Secretary-General.

They differ from all previous Iraqi proposals in holding the Algiers treaty still relevant to the two countries' interests. The treaty was renounced by President Saddam in September, 1980, a few days before his forces invaded Iran.

Tehran's state-controlled media confirmed that the letter was being considered by the foreign policy committee of the Majlis, the Iranian parliament, but it did not disclose details of the proposals. But the source said that the letter suggested the Saudi Arabian holy city of Mecca as the venue of the next round of peace talks.

"As we have no diplomatic relations with Saudi Arabia, it would be quite difficult for the Iranian Government to agree to the initiative as a whole," he said.

"But it is definitely a step forward and the initial reaction of our leaders is positive."

He agreed that the latest proposals might explain why Iranian spokesmen in recent days have toned down their hostile references to Iraq.

Iraq's proposed venue may be a bargaining point as well as a gesture to Saudi Arabia. It was a Saudi Arabian newspaper, *Asharq al-Awsat*, that first disclosed the Iraqi letter.

But talks could still founder if Iraq continued to insist that the only outstanding border dispute concerned the Shatt al-Arab waterway, at the head of the Gulf, which appears to be the case from the details disclosed so far.

The Algiers treaty marked the deepest channel of the river at any one point as the course of the two countries border, meaning that both Iran and Iraq had equal navigational rights.

Analysts said President Saddam's latest concession is linked to his desire to host an Arab summit in Baghdad at the end of the month.

## Setback for Arab hopes on summit

From Michael Theodorou, Nicosia

A WEEK of tortuous diplomatic efforts to end the long and bitter feud between Syria and Iraq foundered yesterday when Syria announced it would not attend an emergency Arab summit in Baghdad. Instead Syria proposed an emergency meeting of Arab foreign ministers in Tunis to discuss a venue and agenda for a summit in the future.

The message was conveyed by the Syrian Foreign Minister, Mr Farouk al-Shara, to the Arab League's Secretary-General, Mr Chadli Klibi, one of many high level envoys shuttling between Middle East capitals hoping to get the summit off the ground.

Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Jordan have all been involved in efforts to end the rift between President Assad of Syria and President Saddam Hussein of Iraq.



Wreckage litters a railway line north of Sydney where a double-decker commuter train and a veteran steam train collided, killing six people

## Sabotage feared in rail crash

From Robert Cockburn, Sydney

POLICE are investigating whether sabotage caused Australia's worst rail accident for 13 years. Six people died and more than 100 were injured on Sunday when an electric inter-city train ran into the back of a steam train carrying jazz fans. It had stalled trying to climb a steep gradient outside Sydney.

Police were looking for fingerprints on a hand-operated brake in the steam train's third carriage. Mr Bruce Baird, the New South Wales Transport Minister, said the brake had been applied, probably by a passenger. The state government banned steam train outings on its railway network until further notice.

The 47-year-old locomotive was returning from a jazz festival when the accident happened. Among the dead is Professor John Ward, the former vice-chancellor of Sydney University, who once taught at Cambridge University, his wife Patricia and their daughter Jennifer.

## Trial told of beating by Mrs Mandela

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

MRS Winnie Mandela took turns with members of the "Mandela United Football Club," her squad of bodyguards in Soweto township, in beating up three young men and a teenage boy whose body was later found on open ground, a judge was told here yesterday.

Mr Kenneth Kease, aged 30, one of the alleged victims, told the Rand Supreme Court in Johannesburg that he had been terrified by Mrs Mandela, the wife of Mr Nelson Mandela, the Deputy President of the African National Congress. He said she slapped, punched and whipped the four of them and pulled them by the hair. Mr Kease said that as she punched him she ordered him not to block her blows.

Mr Kease was giving evidence at the trial of Mr Jerry Richardson, aged 41, who was the Mandela United "coach". Mr Richardson has pleaded

not guilty to the murder of "Stompie" Moeketsi Seipei, aged 14, a black activist, and to further charges of attempted murder, kidnapping and assault.

It is alleged that "Stompie" and the other three were abducted from a Methodist Church house in Soweto in December, 1988, and taken to Mrs Mandela's home by Mr Richardson and members of the football team.

"Stompie" was accused of being a police informer who had "sold out" four ANC members, and the others were accused of having a sexual relationship with a Methodist minister.

An investigation by the church cleared the minister of the allegations while early last year the "Mandela United Football Club" was disbanded after Soweto leaders called on the community to distance itself from Mrs Mandela.

## Sihanouk bows out of politics

Peking — Prince Norodom Sihanouk said yesterday that he will take a long leave of absence as leader of the Cambodian resistance and will no longer be involved in the country's politics.

He will devote himself to rehabilitating his people. He asked the Phnom Penh Government to allow him to travel in zones it controls, but said he would not attend planned talks with Mr Hun Sen, the Prime Minister. (AFP)

## Appeal move

Jerusalem — The Supreme Court here has admitted as evidence the accounts of two Poles who could cast doubt on whether John Demjanjuk — who is appealing against a death sentence — was the Nazi death camp guard "Ivan the Terrible". (AP)

## Crete threat

Athens — Colonel Gadafi of Libya has disclosed in a Greek television interview that he was ready to bombard US bases on Crete in 1986, shortly after a US air raid on Libya.

## MP is killed

Colombo — Sam Thambimuttu, a Sri Lankan Tamil MP, who was about to begin a tour of the US, Canada and Britain, has been assassinated outside the Canadian High Commission here. (AFP)

## Family held

Lisbon — Mozambican Renamo rebels say they are holding four South Africans whose yacht entered rebel-held territory. (Reuters)

## Denktash wins

Nicosia — Mr Rauf Denktash's ruling National Unity Party in north Cyprus has romped to victory in general elections. (Reuters)

## Peak reached

Peking — An expedition of Chinese, Soviet and American climbers has reached Everest's summit. (Reuters)

## Mermaid attack

Copenhagen — A seven-inch gash found in the neck of the "Little Mermaid" appears to be an attempt to decapitate the bronze statue to Hans Christian Andersen. (AP)

## Bribe sentence

Sydney — Edmund Rouse was jailed for three years for trying to bribe an opposition MP to save Tasmania's Liberal Government.

## Indian security crackdown contains unrest in Kashmir

Christopher Thomas, the first Western correspondent to visit Kashmir for three months, finds a population increasingly divided along sectarian lines

INDIA has gained the upper hand in the beleaguered Kashmir Valley after an aggressive two-month security operation by thousands of troops, police and paramilitary forces.

The valley is now a fortress. Factories, schools, universities, banks and post offices are mostly closed. The police and paramilitary presence in Srinagar, the summer capital, is overwhelming.

Between them, the security forces and at least 50 militant organisations have removed just about every semblance of normal life. In Srinagar, as in other towns, a shoot-on-sight curfew falls at 6 pm every day and remains in force for the next 15 hours — unless there is trouble, in which case it is extended. A general strike called by Moslem separatists yesterday brought life to a standstill.

India may have contained the secessionist challenge, but it has certainly not removed it. It is patently obvious that almost every Muslim supports an independent, reunited Kashmir. Contrary to Pakistani propaganda, nobody wants to join Pakistan, whose political exploitation of the crisis is deeply resented. Even "Azad" Kashmir, seems to be moving in favour of a breakaway from Pakistan. After 400 years of being ruled by outsiders, nationalism has taken a firm hold on both sides of the line of control.

Many people in the valley observe small personal acts of protest against India. They wear watches on the right wrist, for example, and set them half an hour back, to Pakistan time. This little badge of rebellion infuriates security forces, who demand

to check people's watches at roadblocks. Shopkeepers in the grubby alleyways of bazaars like Budshah Chowk have erected signs in Urdu, instead of the usual English, painted on a background of green, the colour of militancy.

The police and military seem to be everywhere. There is a sandbag bunker on every corner in central Srinagar. Foot patrols move constantly through the streets. At night, after curfew falls, military convoys rumble through the deserted city.

A curfew was imposed for 15 consecutive days and nights from April 6 to 21. It was a traumatic experience, recalled with great bitterness. Food almost ran out, and towards the end only rice and cereals were left in most households; pregnant women were known to have died for want of medical attention; there was no electricity; and every day the security forces fanned out into a new district, searching houses and taking away unknown numbers of young men.

Atrocities undoubtedly took place. The Central Police Reserve Force, a non-Kashmiri paramilitary body manned by Hindus and Sikhs, is despised and feared. Yet security officials in Delhi admit that they captured few militant leaders.

The circumstances under which people are held are not known. The International Committee of the Red Cross

and the Delhi-based Civil Liberties Centre are not allowed to enter the valley. All terrorist trials are to be conducted more than 100 miles away in Jammu, the second city. Since Jammu is predominantly Hindu, it will be difficult for alleged subversives to find an acceptable lawyer.

The Government has closed the valley's three local newspapers, *Azad Kashmiri* and *Waddi Ki Awaaz*, all of them Urdu-language publications. In retaliation, militant organisations have banned the distribution of all outside newspapers, including the Jammu-based *Kashmir Times*, creating an overwhelming sense of isolation.

Censorship has been imposed without any official announcement. All items filed by a local Indian news agency reporter begin with a reminder to his editors: "Subject to official clearance at Jammu."

All people killed by security forces have to be described as "militants". The reporter said: "I know many innocent people are killed, but I cannot say so. Nor can I write that the independence movement is supported by every single Muslim in the valley, which it is."

Almost all Hindus, previously about 4 per cent of the population, have left the valley and are housed in refugee centres in Jammu or Delhi. The Indian Government attributes their flight to intimidation by secessionists.

Local human rights activists, however, insist that the Government encouraged the exodus to create the impression internationally that Hindus were under siege from Muslim fundamentalists. In smart Srinagar suburbs like Champora, dozens of big Hindu homes stand empty. The keys have been left with Muslim neighbours and the houses are obviously being well looked after.

According to a prominent lawyer in Srinagar, who is involved in human rights work, 2,000 people are held under emergency regulations, although it is impossible to substantiate the figure. Last week, a special Srinagar court that tries alleged subversives was closed — he believes to prevent local Muslim lawyers from defending suspects. "They will never get a fair trial in Jammu," he added.

## Foreign role suspected in Pakistan train blast

Lahore

THE Pakistan Government ordered an investigation yesterday into the bombing of an express train in which 13 passengers died, and an official suggested India or Afghanistan might have been involved.

No one claimed responsibility for Sunday's explosion, in which 40 people were injured.

"I do not rule out the possibility of either an Indian or Afghan hand behind it," Mr Zafar Leghari, the Railways Minister, said hours after a 5 lb bomb ripped through the first-class car of an express train bound for Karachi.

Twelve people died at the scene, and one person died of injuries at a Lahore hospital yesterday, authorities said.

The accident occurred less than 10 miles from the border with India, which blames Pakistan for two violent secessionist movements in the Indian states of Punjab, and Jammu and Kashmir.

Miss Benazir Bhutto, Pakistan's Prime Minister, said: "Those who want to distract attention from what is happening inside India have a motive to do something in Pakistan."

Hundreds of bombs have exploded in Pakistan in recent years. (AP)

## Patten under fire over 'green' talks

By Michael McCarthy, Environment Correspondent

BRITISH environmental pressure groups combined last night to criticize Mr Chris Patten, the Environment Secretary, for his last-minute decision to pull out of the international conference on sustainable development, or "green growth", opening today at Bergen in Norway.

The conference is the first Western attempt at a coherent international response to the warning issued in 1987 by Norway's then Prime Minister, Mrs Gro Harlem Brundtland, in the report of the UN World Commission on Environment and Development that human pressures on the Earth are now leading to combined environmental and human disaster.

The meeting is a first step toward possible international agreement on how the whole world, especially the poor countries, can develop without destroying the environment on which all life



Mr Patten: He blamed pressure of work at home

ultimately depends, through the "greening" of economic policy-making.

The 34 Bergen participants, seeking agreement first on a regional level, are the countries of Eastern and Western Europe, with the US and Canada, and the meeting will bring together for the first time the environment min-

isters of Eastern Europe's emergent democracies.

Mr Patten, a well-known enthusiast for the Brundtland report since his time as Minister for Overseas Development, was listed as one of the principal speakers at the conference, and his decision late last week to pull out and send his deputy, Mr David Trippier, has caused surprise and anger among environmental groups and Third World aid organizations.

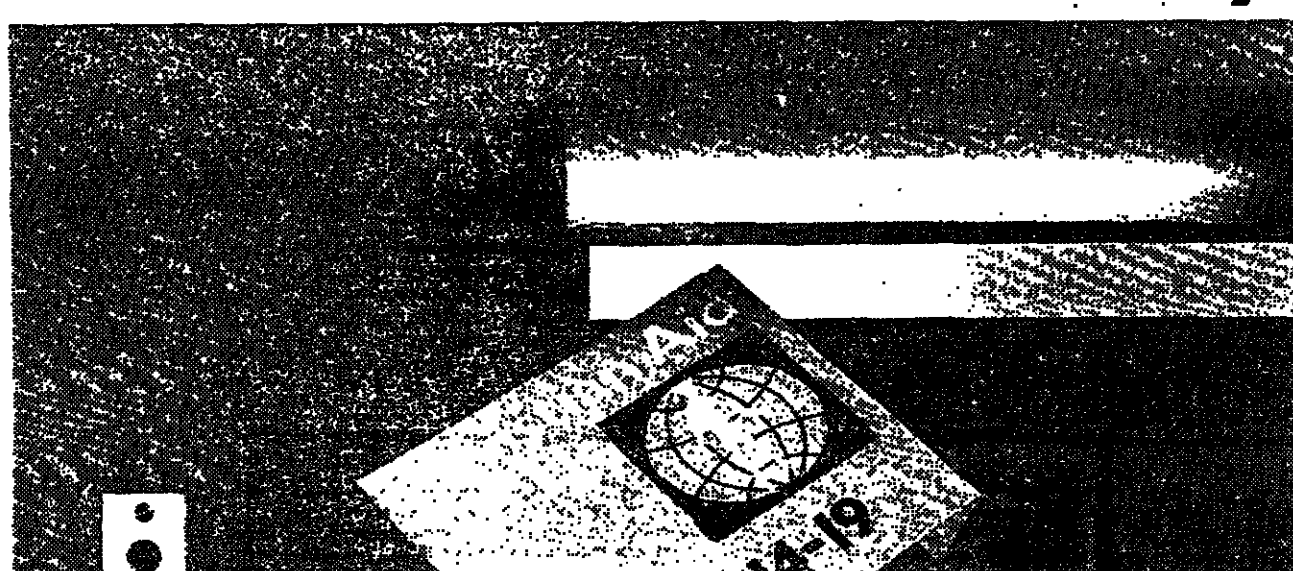
Last night 32 groups, ranging from the United Nations and Christian Aid to the Town and Country Planning Association and the World Wildlife Fund for Nature, backed a letter to Mr Patten from Miss Fiona Reynolds of the Council for the Protection of Rural England, saying: "We can only conclude that Britain is not prepared to give the issue top priority and that once again environmental considerations are being subordinated to other considerations." Miss Reynolds said: "This decision is another step in the long process

from the high promise of Chris Patten's early days, and a clear signal that Britain's new green image was a false dawn. By not participating he has revealed the British Government's lack of commitment to the international environmental process."

Mr Patten's withdrawal, believed to be related to the pressure of his responsibilities for the poll tax, may do real damage to his credibility as the standard-bearer of the British Government's environmental concern.

"The Bergen conference comes at a particularly difficult time in departmental terms and, as I explained, to the Norwegian Environment Minister, to my very considerable regret I was unable to fit it in."

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Señor Menem: Elected a Peronist, but has turned the party's tradition on its head

## Menem nurtures seeds of an economic revival

ONLY four months after facing what seemed like an irreversible economic collapse, Argentina is at a crossroads on the road to recovery.

Recession is biting hard but, after 40 years of economic decline and mismanagement, Argentines are taking it with surprising fortitude. Hyperinflation is in decline: down from 200 per cent a month last July to 12 per cent in April, and still falling. The austral, which at the beginning of the year hit a record 6,000 against the dollar, fluctuated quietly last month at around 5,000 on the open market. Tougher taxation and expenditure cuts have restored government finances, and this year the country will service its crippling foreign debt.

At the centre of this apparent revival is President Menem, a Peronista no less, who only six months ago was dismissed as a dangerous lightweight. Wearing a light gabardine suit President Menem welcomes me warmly at the door to his office in the Casa Rosada, the presidential palace in Buenos Aires. The side-whiskers are shorter than when he was campaigning, when he said more blood might yet be spilt over the Falkland Islands.

His office is comfortably austere and restful. We sit at the head of the table around which General Galtieri's junta blundered into war. President Menem produces an ornate pipe and fills it with fresh tobacco (Dunhill "London Mixture").

Why did you choose to make your political career in the Peronist party, considering its negative record in

"I can do business with Britain," says President Menem of Argentina, who once threatened to spill more blood over the Falklands. He told Maxi Gainza in Buenos Aires that his policies are at last putting his country on the path of economic reform. Next, he wants to meet Mrs Thatcher

government? He pulls unhurriedly at his pipe, then answers in a good-natured way: "Negative, positive depends which way you look at it." Then he adds in his slow, melodious *rioplatense* accent: "I'm a nationalist, and from very early on I realized there were strong affinities between my way of feeling and that of Justicialism (the Peronist ideology)."

But surely your policies have nothing in common with traditional Peronism? Peronism is corporatist, interventionist, in thrall to the unions, anti-American and anti-British. President Menem supports free enterprise, puts the brakes on fiscal profligacy, launches a daring privatization programme and "regulates" the unions' right to strike. He is an exceptionally friendly terms with the United States, wants a similar rapprochement with Britain...

No, he hasn't forsaken Justicialism — he avoids saying "Peronism". He reminds me that he joined the movement after Peron's overthrow in 1955, "when the going was tough", and spent most of his political life in the wilderness because of his allegiance to it; was imprisoned, tortured and banished to a remote village in northern Argentina by the military regime. "All I did was mature and adapt principles to a rapidly-changing world."

But for the eight million who voted for you, it seems you turned the traditional Peronist message on its head?

He disagrees. Peronism was long overdue for an ideological overhaul to remain viable in the 1990s. He took the lead, trusting the party would follow him. "A leader must stay at the head of his party," he declares. "Otherwise the party will walk off with his head."

But he says he dislikes talking in terms of party. Indeed, there are far more Menemists today than there ever were Peronist voters.

The old party has rallied round, albeit grudgingly. Trade unions no longer hold the Government to ransom. The military, alienated by former President Alfonsín's less than even-handed dispensation of justice to officers involved in the "dirty war", are back in the fold — barring a few hot-headed ex-colonels.

President Menem deftly outmanoeuvres, isolates or wins over opponents. He has stolen the fire of the only party to constitute a credible alternative to both Radical and Peronist populism, the conservative *Unión del Centro Democrático*, by adopting its liberal economic policies, adding a "caring" conscience, and renaming the policies the "Productive Revolution".

Señor Menem is said to have adopted these economic ideas with the single-minded conviction of the convert. "Not conversion," he corrects me. "Evolution rather."

Perhaps the religious overtones of the word "conversion" touch a raw nerve. Born a Muslim of Syrian immigrant parents, his conversion to Catholicism before entering politics prompted malicious speculation over his motives for turning to Christianity. How deep is his political conviction that liberal conservatism is the solution to Argentina's crisis?

Again a calm, quizzical look. "There is nothing new about my policies. Many before me believed in them, but didn't dare carry them out. Not even Peron. They lacked courage — not conviction." One of the biggest tests of political courage will be

privatization. "State industries are losing \$10.5 million a day; almost \$4 billion a year! This can't go on."

Mrs Thatcher would have said, "There is no such thing as a free lunch". Señor Menem likes the phrase, repeats it slowly and carefully. So, will he send home 200,000 public employees, as he says he must?

The politician in him takes over. First he is trying "redeployment" and early retirement schemes. Then he must wait for Congress to pass the new Employment Bill, which should at long last provide support for those out of work. As if in mitigation, he reminds me that public sector wages only take 3 per cent of GNP, while state spending on its loss-making industries takes 8 per cent of GNP. He will deal with these first.

Is he backsliding? Too soon to tell. Harsh, dogmatic measures rub against his grain. But I do not doubt his resolve, nor the cunning, seat-of-the-pants instinct with which he flies seemingly erratic courses while apparently keeping on target.

Winding up the interview, I ask how he regards the resumption of Anglo-Argentine diplomatic relations. He is satisfied, and hopes relations will soon return to their old warmth. Naturally, he will keep up the struggle for recognition of Argentine sovereignty over the Malvinas, but — despite the election rhetoric — only through peaceful means. "There is no doubt in my mind that the Malvinas are Argentine," he says, "and that we'll get them back some day. I myself might not see that day, but my children will — or else my grandchildren. Meantime, I don't see why we can't have good relations with Britain."

Yes, he would like to visit Britain. "I'm told Mrs Thatcher would also like to visit Argentina," he adds. She would be very welcome. "Any message to the British?" He ponders the question. "Tell them," he replies, "that we can do good business together."

## US foils cocaine cartel's missile plot

From Susan Elliott  
Washington

US INTELLIGENCE officials uncovered the most advanced attempt yet by the Medellín cocaine cartel to obtain Stinger anti-aircraft missiles at the weekend when they arrested several Colombians linked to a leading drug trafficker.

The FBI has traced the foiled plot back to Señor Pablo Escobar, one of the most wanted men at the head of the cartel, according to a report in *The New York Times*. The intelligence agency arrested at least three Colombians on Saturday in the cities of Miami and Tampa, long centres of the drug trafficking industry between Latin America and the United States.

Colombia's drug smugglers already have a large arsenal, but US authorities say they have recently foiled several similar but less advanced efforts by traffickers to obtain Stinger ground-to-air missiles. ABC television news reported on Sunday night that the traffickers intended to use the weapons to increase their grip on Colombia by attacking the aircraft and helicopters of President Barco of Colombia, and his Cabinet.

The report of the conspiracy to procure the Stinger missiles comes amid signs that Colombian drug smugglers have been intensifying efforts to obtain weapons. A supply of Uz machine guns reportedly found their way three months ago to José Rodríguez Gacha, Gacha, one of Colombia's most notorious leaders of drug gangs, was killed by the Colombian police in an ambush at his ranch early this year. US authorities are struggling to determine how the arms fell into his hands since they were approved by the Israeli Government for transfer to the Caribbean island of Antigua.

A senior government official told *The New York Times* that the Medellín cartel was expecting to pay \$5-\$6 million (£3.1-£3.7 million) for the 24 Stinger missiles, which had not yet left the United States when the FBI broke up the conspiracy. The official said he was unable to confirm the ABC report that the traffickers aimed to kill President Barco, who has stepped up co-operation with the United States to rid the Andean countries of the narcotics trade.

Anti-drug intelligence networks have linked Señor Escobar, thought to employ the Colombians arrested last weekend in Florida, with the murders of leading political candidates over the past year. Two weeks ago, a gunman aboard a Colombian aircraft stepped out of the plane's toilet 10 minutes after take-off from Bogotá and shot dead Señor Carlos Pizarro Leon-Gomez, a former left-wing guerrilla who joined the presidential race last month.

Señor Escobar and Gacha were named a year ago by the US in a list of the 12 most wanted Colombians connected to drug trafficking. America estimates that 80 per cent of its cocaine is supplied by the Medellín and Cali cartels.



President Barco: A key target for the drug barons

## Argentina sends a quiet pragmatist to break ice

From Charles Bremner, Buenos Aires

PRESIDENT Menem of Argentina fits the stereotype of the romantic Latin so well that he sometimes seems to be indulging in self-caricature.

But the man he is sending to London on Friday to break the ice as Argentina's first Ambassador since the defeat at the hands of Britain in 1982 is the very antithesis of the President. Señor Mario Cámpora, a diplomat-politician from President Menem's own Peronist party, is most comfortable behind the scenes in the corridors of power.

It is the place he has spent most of his working life from the Washington and Delhi embassies of his early career to the period of the 1970s, when he worked as right hand to his uncle, Hector Cámpora, who served a stormy six-weeks as head of a radical administration after Juan Perón returned from exile in 1973.

Señor Cámpora, who is aged 59 and of medium stature, is hardly the type who will cut a dash at the Court of St James or make a splash on the talk shows. But that would be the last thing Argentina would want in an envoy whose task is, to say the least, delicate. Sensibilities over the Falklands are still raw on both sides, particularly in Argentina.

Señor Cámpora has been serving as Deputy Foreign Minister under Señor Domingo Cavallo, who has been having talks this week with his opposite number, Mr Douglas Hurd. He says his brief is to help put things back to where they were before the ruling generals embarked on their invasion of the Falklands in April, 1982. "Our relations

have deep roots. If we are careful and help fertilize the tree, it will quite soon be back in good condition," he says, painstakingly choosing his English words.

It is an open secret in Señor Menem's inner circle that the President was happy to pack Señor Cámpora off to London, since the two men failed to hit it off personally.

But Señor Cámpora's credentials in the Falklands matter are impeccable. Unlike many of Argentina's diplomats, he was never obliged to defend the invasion, since he sat out the eight years of the military junta working with his uncle and the Peronists and writing treaties on international affairs both at home and in Mexico and elsewhere. It was only in 1984, in the months after the generals departed, that he rejoined the service when President Alfonsín sent him as Ambassador to the Geneva disarmament conference.

Argentina and Britain make natural friends, Señor Cámpora says. "Our economies have always complemented each other. The United Kingdom has a great maritime vocation and Argentina is at the bottom of the world, almost like an island. Britain is present in so many aspects of Argentine life."

He keeps returning to Argentina's cherished links with the Old World. "We in Argentina are the Europe of Latin America," he says. "The reason is very simple. When the Spanish came to this continent this area was not inhabited by an old civilization as was the case in Mexico or Peru. About 80 or 90 per

cent of the inhabitants came later from Europe."

In London, Señor Cámpora says, he will be able to help re-establish the old commerce. "There is plenty of scope for trade," he says and he rejects, as he must, the fashionable talk about South America being left on the sidelines as the rich countries race to start business in East Europe.

The Ambassador's bookshelves bulge with the political classics. There are *Das Kapital*, the complete Lenin and Khrushchev's memoirs, as well as the thoughts of Augusto Sandino, the pre-war Nicaraguan revolutionary. Such left-wing figures reflect the radical "Justicialist" ideology devised by Perón after he was impressed by Mussolini's Italy in the 1930s. Its main feature is a blend of paternalistic socialism with right-wing nationalism.

Since those days Peronism has swung full circle through the political spectrum to the point where President Menem has embraced a free-market ideology that must have the old President turning in his grave. "You have to remember those were the 1970s and the Vietnam syndrome was prevailing in international relations," Señor Cámpora says. "Nowadays it's completely different. It is quite clear now that the Western alliance, that is the US, Western Europe and Japan, have prevailed with their political systems. They have shown how with political and economic liberties it is possible to build an egalitarian society. That is the way to reach what the socialists were after from the very beginning."

## Yen to speculate in art fuels prices

From Joe Joseph, Tokyo

FED up with rich but novice Japanese art buyers driving up world prices by purchasing Western pictures purely for speculation, a top Japanese art dealer is closing his auction business until, he says, his countrymen recover their senses.

Mr Takayuki Hayakawa, a dealer for the past 20 years, says he is irritated by Japanese customers who pick paintings only by their price tags. He also feels embarrassed to be playing a role in the art price spiral by banging down his gavel on bids far higher than many pictures are worth.

In a country which imports Western art as keenly as Western countries buy Japanese cars — come to Japan if you want to see the priciest Picasso sold, or the second

most expensive Van Gogh — Mr Hayakawa looks like being as successful as King Canute in holding back the tide.

Sotheby's is so confident that the market is still flourishing in Japan that it recently began holding auctions in Tokyo. The hunt by Japanese investors for a new home for their money now that the stock market is looking jittery has boosted Japan's art-buying boom, says Miss Kazuko Shiomi, head of Sotheby's in Japan.

For some Japanese collectors, buying art is a handy way of hiding cash from the taxman. It has also become fashionable for coffee bars to exhibit a pricey painting as a conversation piece.

Mr Hayakawa, who started Japan's first auction house,

Art Sales Japan, in 1988, says: "The art market in the past year or so has been extraordinary. I have tried to create an art market with appropriate prices, but because of the nature of auctions I can easily imagine having to conduct auctions that are against my principles."

"Some people ask me to find them a painting worth, say, 100 million yen (about £380,000) because they have exactly that much in cash. Others come asking how much profit they could make if they bought a painting now and sold it next year."

"When someone makes a winning bid for a painting at an exorbitant price, I am usually surprised and glad at the same time for a moment, because as an auctioneer I get

a commission. But moments later I realize that I myself had a hand in raising prices."

Japan imported 280 billion yen worth of art last year, mostly French Impressionist. Art dealers reckon the figure will top 400 billion yen this year. Among recent acquisitions were Picasso's "Les Femmes d'Alger", bought by a Japanese car parts company for 300 million French francs (£32,258,000) — a record for Picasso — and Willem de Kooning's "Interchange", picked up by a Japanese collector for \$20.6 million (£12.6 million), a record sum for work by a living artist.

Mr Hayakawa reckons that it will be a couple of years before the Japanese art market crashes. Then he will pick up his gavel again.

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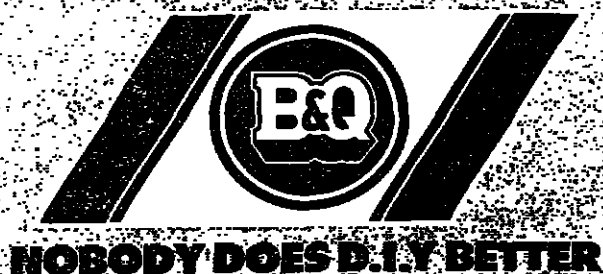
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مكتبات الأحياء



# “THE ISSUE IS NO LONGER APARTHEID, BUT WHAT KIND OF SOCIETY WILL REPLACE IT.”

*Gavin Relly, Anglo American Corporation. February 1990.*

South Africa today stands on the threshold of enormous change. It is an exciting, if dangerous moment in its history.

Now, for the first time in 40 years, South Africans of all political beliefs can take part in open, free and vigorous debate about the future of their country.

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## UNTYING THE ALBATROSS

Can Mr Michael Heseltine win the next election for Mrs Thatcher after all? Later this week, he intends to put forward proposals on how the Government might resolve its biggest dilemma since it returned to power in 1979, what to do about the poll tax. Such proposals could be the key not just to his party's fate but to his own hope of succession when Mrs Thatcher eventually steps down.

The Prime Minister has emerged from the local elections with her previously shaky leadership looking more secure, thanks to the remarkable manipulation of government grants to certain "flagship" London councils. As a result, Mr Heseltine's oft-repeated assertion that he would not stand against Mrs Thatcher and that she will lead the Tories into the next election looks an increasingly safe bet. Opinion polls may tell the party that he would be the better leader electorally, especially among floating voters, but he has ruled out a direct contest and Mrs Thatcher has ruled out resignation.

Which leaves Mr Heseltine and the reform of the poll tax, to which even the Cabinet appears committed. The phrase to which government spokesmen have been clinging in recent months is that "the basic principle of the community charge must remain intact". The question of which principle is basic and which can be discarded is left conveniently open.

The principles which Mr Heseltine should firmly proclaim this week are those of local accountability, of each household paying something for local services and of some linkage to ability to pay. These aspects of poll tax were part of its original purpose, but have been diluted under political pressure. By being a flat-rate impost, the new tax has found itself so capped and rebated as to lose its essence. This essence should be recaptured in any reform.

What must be changed is that the tax must be imposed not on individuals but on households, and imposed progressively. Only thus can the curse of ever widening rebates, and thus ever diminishing numbers of payers, be avoided. Last week, Mrs Thatcher was

saying that one in four local voters would not now be paying full community charge, a high percentage that undermines the accountability of the tax.

But on what basis should a charge be levied? Britain must not go down the route of personal or household income assessment, with its difficulties of means testing, monitoring and policing. The only sensible method of making a local tax progressive is to relate it to the prosperity of whole households, and the only sensible way of doing that is to base it on the value of their property. There is nothing wrong in basing a small part of the public revenue on property value — every other Western nation does.

Such a basis would avoid the need for yet another boost to rebates, since for the most part the poor live in less valuable property than the rich. As was the case with the rates, a property-valuation community charge would be simple to register and collect, since the existing rating lists could be used. The biggest test for the Government would be to abandon capping. But no aspect of the community charge has given more ideological distress to its ardent supporters. Capping destroys the whole point of the tax: accountability. Mr Heseltine, who fought at the environment department against Treasury controls on local spending, could even revive his excellent idea of a local referendum for councils planning to go above their standard spending assessment.

The virtue of Mr Heseltine espousing a property-based community charge is twofold. First, he can present it as evolving out of the existing tax towards greater accountability and progressiveness. Second, he could neutralize local taxation as an election issue. Certainly, a reform along these lines would mean climbing down from the pure heights of the community charge. But those heights are already surrounded with political pollution, shrouded in cost and unpopularity. Mr Heseltine would be doing his party, his leader and himself a favour if he could plot a safe path down to earth.

## THE POVERTY TRICKLE

The Government has never claimed to rely solely on the much criticized "trickle-down" theory as its answer to poverty. None the less, it has taken comfort from the fact that statistics seemed to show it working, even if the "cardboard cities" of the metropolitan homeless suggest otherwise.

The statistics are wrong, says the House of Commons Select Committee on Social Security, in a unanimous report disclosed in *The Times* today. According to the committee, the poor have not done nearly as well as had been thought — hardly well at all, in fact.

Trickle-down theory holds that a dynamic economy helps the average and better than average person to become richer, and this effect will multiply, eventually lifting the standards of the poor as well. In so far as a growing economy means falling unemployment, this is a statement of the obvious. But the poorest who constitute the bottom 10 per cent tend to be cut off from such benefits of growth, and must rely on an array of social security payments and subsidies. Even so, the Government has often claimed that the increased prosperity of the nation did not pass them by.

The impact on poverty of one such payment, housing benefit, is now shown to have been miscalculated by the official statisticians. In the years 1981-5 the living standards of the poorest 10 per cent had been thought to rise by nearly twice the average rate. In other words the trickle-down effect was particularly beneficial to those on lowest incomes.

The select committee hired the Institute of Fiscal Studies to check the sums, and found a substantial error in the earlier figures. In the same period when the trickle-down theory was thought to have been so successful, the living standards of the lowest 10 per cent rose by only half — not nearly twice — the average rate. That is bound to mean that for some, living

standards fell drastically. The Government has so far been able to retort that any society in which incomes are widely spread must include those below the average who cannot afford what the average can afford. The only way to avoid this would be to distribute wealth and income entirely equally. Thus it is merely a result of the laws of arithmetic, not evidence of social injustice or political callousness, that "the poor are always with us". The inevitability of relative poverty is an effective answer to those campaigning against poverty who are in fact wedded to greater equality for ideological reasons.

At a certain level of income below the average, a relatively declining standard of living translates as hardship, not a lack of the essentials needed to sustain life but a shortage of clothing, food and shelter to an extent which shames the rest of the community into remedial action. What degree of hardship is considered intolerable is the stuff of politics, not a question that can be left to statisticians.

Society judges that at some level — especially when manifest poverty is visible on the streets — the hardship calls for correction. Ministers must, at least, be more careful how they use the trickle-down argument in future. It also places additional strain on the Government's main response to poverty, the targeting of benefits.

The changes introduced in 1988 were designed to improve targeting, and the downwards revision of the figures for 1981-85 shows how necessary that improvement was. But as long as the streets of London are lined with dossers, a rising number of young people reporting to homelessness centres and mental patients being decamped unaided into the community, targeting will have to bear an ever rising burden of social responsibility. The Government's claim that the trickle-down effect would also help to take care of it is now seen, to say the least, to be not proven.

## A CERTAIN IDEA OF FRANCE

The debate about Europe, and in particular the occasional barbed exchanges between Mrs Thatcher and M Jacques Delors, have portrayed the modern French as rabid federalists, a careless of their heritage, caught up in a doctrinaire pursuit of supranational ideals which must surely erode their national identity. So where stands the legacy of Charles de Gaulle, the centenary of whose birth is celebrated this week?

The fact is that national awareness — and the awareness of national interest — remain as sturdy growths across the Channel as ever they were, and a good thing too. Recent events in Central and Eastern Europe have given the General's views a new relevance. While some British Conservatives assert that the new order there owes much to an enthusiasm for the market economy, the French centre-right tends to see it more as a vindication of the General's vision of a *Europe des patries* stretching from the Atlantic to the Urals, the reassertion of a powerful and enduring sentiment that responds to a basic human need.

Marxists and the radical left have always found this difficult to accept. Nationalism, in their book, was necessarily ephemeral, and would wither away under the assault of reason and material progress. Once the old empires had fallen, the frustrations that stemmed from the denial of self-determination would be removed. This is not an analysis the Prince of Wales is likely to hear much of during his visit to Budapest this week, even in what used to be to the Karl Marx University. Nationalism called the Karl Marx University, and is, ironically, hailed by the West as a liberating force.

De Gaulle had an attractively sardonic way with those who tried to categorize him. One unwary interlocutor ventured a comparison

eral. "I always thought I was Joan of Arc and Bonaparte. How little one knows oneself". His profound knowledge of himself and of his fellow-countrymen, however, is something that his political heirs have not found it easy to match.

He has not been best served by those who invoke him most frequently. In recent years, those who carry the Gaullist banner have seen some of their support seep away to the National Front, most recently over the issue of immigration. More orthodox Gaullists are clearly rattled. Their leader, Jacques Chirac, was reduced at the weekend to declaring that he would never make concessions to "people who had several times tried to assassinate the General". The sentiment is impeccable, but it has its limitations as a political programme.

If the General were to hold one of his celebrated press conferences to review the world scene on the occasion of the centenary, he would no doubt still see the "Anglo-Saxons" in a faintly patronising light, although he might entertain kinder feelings than he once did about the Atlantic Alliance. He would acknowledge that the ending of the division of Germany had brought to an end the equilibrium in Western Europe which he had sought to construct in the 1960s. He would be unlikely on that account to feel any more warmly towards supranational institutions, because he would continue to regard them as incompatible with French identity.

Mainly, however, he would insist on the importance of taking a long view. And he would certainly not resist the temptation to say "I told you so". At a press conference in 1968, he described the blighting of the Prague spring as a "temporary setback". It was, he said, too late for any ideology, including communism, the triumph of which would be delayed.

## Religious topics on the air

From Mr Nicolas Walter

Sir, The problem of trying to reconcile the wish to prevent religious indoctrination on television with the wish to continue traditional religious broadcasting (report, April 30) is insoluble, precisely because traditional religious broadcasting in this country has involved religious indoctrination ever since it began more than 60 years ago, however hard the broadcasting authorities and the broadcasters themselves have attempted to disguise it.

The only solution is surely to give religion the same treatment as other controversial subjects — such as politics and sex — along the lines of the existing Broadcasting Bill, and to prevent any religious body having too much of the argument. And, at the same time, what about allowing non-religious and anti-religious bodies a fairer say in the argument?

Yours etc.,  
NICOLAS WALTER,  
Rationalist Press Association,  
88 Islington High Street, NI,  
May 1.

From the Director of the Unification Church

Sir, David Mellor would do well to heed the voices of those calling for religious diversity and freedom of speech to be provided for in the new Broadcasting Bill.

His attempt to limit religious broadcasting to mainstream groups like the Church of England, whilst curtailing the opportunities of others such as the Unification Church, runs counter to the tradition of freedom of religious expression. Moreover, it ignores the fact that there is a profound spiritual thirst in the country which is not met by the mainstream churches. If others can meet that need, they should not be hindered. Who is to be the supreme judge?

The argument that fundamental freedoms should be denied to many simply because of the unfortunate excesses of a few can be used to justify all restraints on freedom of expression. As a point of fact, the Unification Church in America has been broadcasting for years without seeking viewers' contributions.

It is also a fact that the accusations levelled against us bear marked similarity to those levelled against the early Christians, early Protestants and Wesleyans.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID M. FRANKLIN, Director,  
Unification Church,  
43-44 Lancaster Gate, W2.

## Common land

From Mr David Green

Sir, Kate Ashbrook's hope (April 25) that the Open Spaces Society may encourage people to grant agricultural uses creating new commons will be counter-productive if the society continues to nourish the public misconception that common always means or should mean available to the public. Around 80 per cent of all common land is only common in the sense that one person owns it, while specific other people have (or had) specific rights to share a part of its produce in common — grazing most generally.

Indeed, many commons have been enclosed and lost, and many battles have been fought over registration under the 1965 Act, simply to make sure that land long and conveniently in common agricultural occupation should not be rendered useless for that purpose by subsequent legislation (for which the society is pressing) which throws common land open to the public without discrimination.

There is a clear distinction between those so-called commons (mostly urban and mostly with the characteristics of land registered as village green under the 1965 Act) which have an established public amenity use; and commons established for and in the course of agriculture which never had that use and never should do. The Open Spaces Society would do well to acknowledge this.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID GREEN,  
Rhyd yr Harding, Castle Morris,  
Nr Haverfordwest, Dyfed.

## Poll tax rebates

From Mr Nick Raynsford

Sir, You report (May 2) the Prime Minister at question time as saying of the poll tax that the rebate scheme for chargepayers is "more generous than ever".

This is not true. The community charge rebate scheme is substantially less generous than the rate rebate scheme which was first introduced by a Labour Government in the 1960s and maintained by subsequent governments of both parties until the early 1980s.

However, from 1983 onwards, Mrs Thatcher's Government made a series of deep cuts in the rate rebate scheme, the effect of which has been carried forward into the community charge rebate scheme. These cuts have dramatically reduced rebate entitlement for millions of people.

Among the many cuts made by the Thatcher Government, three have had a particularly harsh impact:

1. The requirement that everyone, even the poorest, must pay at least 20 per cent of the charge without

## Putting estate agents' house in order

From Mr J. C. Sutton

Sir, Richard Green (May 1) asks in what should estate agents be competent. The answer is, primarily, to give the right advice as to what price to ask; how the property should be marketed and described (accurately); to communicate with clients and applicants; and in applicant-property matching and progression of sales. Knowledge of the relevant law is a further requirement.

These basic competences are required, in addition to honesty, if vendors' aspirations are to be realised.

Besides being prone to manipulation by the unscrupulous, unregulated estate agent, the statistics Mr Green suggests agents should publish would be no reliable measure of their effectiveness.

The average selling price as a percentage of asking price is no measure if the client does not accept the agent's advice as to the asking price. Moreover, "gaz-undering" is outside the agent's control.

The average length of time between instruction and a successful sale being agreed will depend again on the realism of the asking price and sellers, some of whom want to sell only at certain prices. And the average would be affected by the composition of the agent's instructions.

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and other professional bodies have been working with leading firms on a committee established by the Training Agency to define standards of competence and related performance criteria for residential agency, with the intention of achieving their recognition by the

National Council for Vocational Qualifications. All steps taken in this direction are for the purpose of protecting the interests of members of the public, buyer, and sellers alike.

Yours faithfully,  
J. C. SUTTON (Chairman,  
Residential Estate Agency  
Committee),  
The Royal Institution of  
Chartered Surveyors,  
12 Great George Street,  
Parliament Square, SW1,  
May 2.

From the Chief Executive of the Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers

Sir, Richard Green's letter questions the need for competence in estate agency, preferring instead to put his faith in past performance.

Competence has a direct impact on behaviour in that training and knowledge of relevant law and practice affecting estate agency make it less likely that individuals will err out of ignorance. The importance of introducing minimum standards of competence in estate agency has already been recognised by an independent study team appointed by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry considering professional liability, which concluded that minimum standards of competence should be determined by the implementation of section 22 of the Estate Agents Act 1979.

Yours faithfully,  
HAMLIN WHITTY,  
Chief Executive,  
Incorporated Society of Valuers  
and Auctioneers,  
3 Cadogan Gate, SW1,  
May 2.

## Repossession cases

From Mr Geoffrey A. Segal

Sir, As a solicitor who acts for a number of mortgagees, I believe that Lady Wilcock, Chairman of the National Consumer Council, is wholly wrong when she requests a "hearts and minds" reform of county court procedure for repossession cases (report, May 2).

Whilst there are some problems with the present county court procedure probably the biggest source of complaints from clients, solicitors and all others dealing with the courts is delay. Lady Wilcock's proposal can only lead to more delay unless the Government is prepared to put more resources, particularly skilled manpower, into the overburdened county courts, especially those in the Greater London area and other major cities.

In my experience, a defendant who comes to court on a pos-

session hearing will always receive a sympathetic hearing from the registrar, and if there is any prospect of arrears being cleared the defendant will be allowed the time to sort out his financial affairs.

The 90-second hearings Lady Wilcock refers to almost always take place where the defendant adopts a head-in-the-sand approach and doesn't bother to attend court at all, despite approaches by the mortgagees and their solicitors seeking proposals at all stages of proceedings.

The suggestion that the court procedures should be changed to devote more time to that sort of case would merely lead to more justice delays.

Yours faithfully,  
GEOFFREY A. SEGAL,  
Lehrer Segal (Solicitors),  
125/129 High Street,  
Edgware, Middlesex,  
May 3.

## Tunnel finances

From the Chief Executive of Eurotunnel

Sir, Bernard Levin informed us on your editorial feature page of April 30 that he has "built" his illustrious career almost entirely on a foundation of hyperbole. He asked leave to continue, partly on the subject of the Channel tunnel.

Granted, Mr Levin, it can be amusing. But on February 19 he got his arithmetic wildly wrong, not just exaggerated. And on April 30 he crossed the frontier between hyperbole and falsehood.

It was a lie to say that Eurotunnel represented in February, 1990 "we would not need any more money"; and that Eurotunnel "proudly announces that its coffers are quite sufficiently full for the job in hand"; and that Eurotunnel in April was

asking for two billion pounds more than in February; and that Eurotunnel has ever suggested the Kent rail link is "essential" if the tunnel is "to be finished on time".

Mr Levin should be reminded that Eurotunnel is not seeking, nor has it sought at any time since construction began, a penny from the State for the fixed-link project for which we are responsible; and that the Government is bound by treaty, ratified by Parliament, to honour a concession in which it undertook "to carry out the infrastructure necessary for a satisfactory flow of traffic" to and from the tunnel.

Yours faithfully,  
ALASTAIR MORTON,  
Chief Executive, Eurotunnel,  
The Channel Tunnel Group Ltd.,  
11 Buckingham Palace Road, SW1,  
May 4.

## Ideal reading

From Major O. Crocombe

Sir, In deploring the presence of magazines rather than the New Testament in the waiting room of his local crematorium Canon Richards (May 1) seems to be under the impression that local crematoria are provided for Christians exclusively.

My understanding is that they are there for all of us, including Anglo-Saxon pagans like me. I would prefer the magazines.

Yours faithfully,  
OLIVER CROCOMBE,  
Castle House,  
Enmore, Bridgwater, Somerset,  
May 1.

## War horses

From Mr Narindar Saroop

Sir, The equestrian statue of Lord Napier of Magdala, at the top end of Queen's Gate in London, sadly does not record some little-known facts about his horse.

Some years ago, as we drove past it, the late Sir Khizar Hyat Tiwana, the last Premier of the undivided Punjab (his family provided the only hereditary royal heralds appointed in the Indian sub-continent and his grandfather proclaimed Queen Victoria Empress of India) told me that the horse was presented to Lord Napier by the same grandfather when an expedition of Indian Army forces sailed from Bombay in 1868 to subdue Emperor Theodore in East Africa.

Lord Napier was mounted on the horse throughout the campaign. Back in India, the animal, by then called Magdala, was returned to the Tiwana family. Sir Khizar recalled his father telling him of one of the family's Sikh gamekeepers riding Magdala, shouting "I am riding the horse on which Lord Napier conquered Africa".

Yours faithfully,  
NARINDAR SAROOP,  
The Cavalry and Guards Club,  
127 Piccadilly, W1.

## Bosses at rest

From Sir Bryan Askew

Sir, The ideal solution to the holiday problem for the busy executive ("Breaking point and the boss", May 2) is to take a three or four-night break, preferably at short notice, every six to eight weeks.

Not only is this system very relaxing, it is also cost effective as the hotel industry offers excellent bargains.

Yours faithfully,  
BRYAN ASKEW,  
27 Golf Links Avenue,  
Tadcaster,  
North Yorkshire,  
May 4.

## British role in East Europe

From Mr Roger Fox

Sir, In spite of the drawbacks and disappointments mentioned by your Warsaw correspondent (report, May 1) I believe that the "Know-How" Fund can still be of considerable assistance in Poland.

Last November in Gdansk, I attended a conference for academics and businessmen and women (the latter from both the State and private sectors) on the implications of 1992 for the EC and Poland. It was obvious to me from this conference that Poland's economic future rests with the younger generation of entrepreneurs who are already making a substantial contribution in the private sector. It was an encouraging experience to encounter their energy and thirst for information on a whole range of business activities.

Unfortunately one gets the impression that the Know-How Fund is too broad in its approach. It is geared towards those most needing assistance in the private sector, who are spread throughout Poland, and cannot easily spare the time to come to Britain.

What is needed is training for those who can undertake it in Poland and, more importantly, by UK nationals who are prepared to make the effort to go there.

Yours faithfully,  
ROGER FOX,  
Thames Polytechnic,  
Wellington Street,  
Woolwich, SE18,  
May 2.

From the Editor of the Bulletin of Medical Ethics

Sir, At an international conference on human rights in medicine, held recently in Krakow, the question "Where are the British?" (report, May 1) was constantly asked. While some questioners referred to the conference itself — 120 French participants, six British — most referred to the absence of effort to improve language teaching.

For 40 years, Eastern Europe has had to learn Russian as its second language. Teachers of other languages were not usually allowed to travel abroad until last year. In science and medicine as well as commerce people are crying out for opportunities to learn English.

Yet, while French, German and Italian radio and television stations are already established in Eastern Europe, those wishing to listen to English have only the BBC World Service, with poor reception and the need for short-wave receivers.

Even some of the few arrangements being made with Eastern Europe may suffer as a result. Six scholarships have been offered to doctors at Charles University in Prague for postgraduate medical study in London. But no language teaching has been included in the offer, and the Czechs are uncertain whether they have enough doctors with adequate English to take up the offer.

Poles, Czechs and Hungarians have told me of their urgent need for improved English teaching at high school and university level. This surely could be arranged quickly through universities and the British Council, with Government support.

Yours faithfully,  
R. H. NICHOLSON, Editor,  
Bulletin of Medical Ethics,  
13-14 Great Sutton Street, EC1,  
May 1.

## Nelsonian sundial

From Mr Quin Hollick

Sir, Commander Binney's general idea (April 19) on turning Trafalgar Square into a commemorative sundial is perfectly feasible, leaving the monument as it stands.

The appropriate shadow would be cast by the top of Nelson's hat. His hat would form the tip of an otherwise imaginary gnomon which would be at about 50° (Mr Davidson's letter, April 25), the bottom of which would be at a point about 120 feet (depending on the exact height of the top of his hat) south of his column. This would be where the hour-lines would converge.

During the summer months, Nelson's hat would happily cast the correct shadow on to the hour-lines within Trafalgar Square; but for most of the winter months, due to the size of the square and the surrounding buildings, it would not work.

Yours faithfully,  
QUIN HOLICK,  
Brook's Close, Swayne's Lane,  
Comberton,  
Cambridge.

From Mr Peter Mottley

Sir, If a horizontal sundial needs its gnomon to be at an angle (W. Davidson, April 25), perhaps Commander Binney (April 19) should re-think his Nelson's Column idea and re-present it to the town council of Pisa?

Yours faithfully,  
PETER MOTTELY,  
9 Aston Close,  
Pangbourne,  
Berkshire.

## Royal Pompidou

From Mr Stanley Alexander

Sir, With all the scaffolding, piping and ladders on the facade of Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, are we aiming at a Pompidou Centre in Paris look-alike for our Royal Academy?

Yours faithfully,  
MINDA ALEXANDER,  
19 Templeme,  
Weybridge, Surrey,  
May 2.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.











Jim McCue on how Ian McEwan's treatment of sexuality in his writing has moved from loveless to loving

# Sex, psyche and salvation

Sex has often defined Ian McEwan's characters, but recently it has become vital and positive. In *The Child in Time* (1987) and his new novel *The Innocent*, healthy sexual intimacy is the primary virtue, against which crime, betrayal and pettiness are measured; it is the reward of maturity, the consolation in despair and a mirror of the psyche.

In his early fiction, McEwan wrote about paedophiles, precocious orphans, exhibitionists and solipsists, about loveless sex in all its brutal, savourless variety. Snatched rather than given, sex for these characters was a desperate resort, a dirty mistake, a source of shame and disappointment. The short story "Homemade", for instance, is about incest between uncomprehending children, while "Pornography" is about a twinning brute whose fantasies turn nasty. Here sex is the festering secret of the adolescent or the terror of the put-upon child, a joyless and destructive urge.

In "Psychopolis", Terence tells of his humiliation by a girl who forced him to pee in his pants in a restaurant, while in *The Comfort of Strangers*, Robert tells how his sisters humiliated him as a child by feeding him their sweet things and then locking him in his father's study to excrete on the valuable rugs.

This is the stuff of cold sweats and bad dreams, though such abuses do happen, and McEwan has always been able to describe just how. Imaginatively empathetic, he shows how easily titillation turns to sadomasochism and to murder, and brilliantly evokes the growth of erotic obsession. "The days came and passed. I saw her on this day and not that, and perhaps twice on another day. Imperceptibly seeing her and not seeing her became a factor in my life, and then before I knew it, it passed from factor to structure... I wished to possess her." When exactly do fleeting desires become dangerous, even fatal?

Lovers should build their lives around one another, and instinctively feel possessive; mastery, even bondage, may be an erotic spur. McEwan now exploits the

positive as well as negative aspects of these ambiguous ideas.

In early stories, he was worldly-witty: "I met her... on my second day in Los Angeles. That same evening we were lovers, and not so long after that, friends." But in *The Innocent*, he is tenderly and precisely interested in how strangers can reach one another. "He knew from experience that unless he made a formidable effort, a pattern was waiting to impose itself: a polite enquiry would elicit a polite response and another question. Have you lived here long? Do you travel far to your work? Is it your afternoon off?" Escaping protective banalities is a triumph for individuals, and through sex the lovers make a world for themselves which excludes whatever is harmful, automatic or insincere.

When Maria discovers Leonard is a virgin (the innocent abroad), she feels "suddenly absolved from

the pressures and rituals of seduction... she was free, they were both free, to invent their own terms." By coupling, they create a fused identity which is theirs alone together. Similarly, their dancing is a mutual learning and invention: "a pattern emerged, devised consciously by neither of them, the product not so much of what they did but of who they were."

As McEwan's early books show, lust on its own can damage, but between lovers it can be the healing catalyst in this fusing of identities. In *The Comfort of Strangers*, Colin and Mary no longer feel a great passion, but they still find that their bodies can overcome occasional selfishness: "They conducted their arguments in silence, and reconciliations such as this were their moments of greatest intensity, for which they were deeply grateful."

Sexual intimacy affirms our value and values; it offers in-

dependence and immunity from the public realm. McEwan reveals in this *The Child in Time*, when a married couple reunite and wonder how anything so good can be permitted: "Not governments, or publicity firms or research departments, but biology, existence, matter itself had dreamed this up for its own pleasure and perpetuity, and this was exactly what you were meant to do, it wanted you to like it." This exaltation in "the essentials, love, sex, friendship, the shared life, whatever" may be the purpose of existence, and its power is the very opposite of the squalid thrills of the early stories.

Sex is especially symbolic in adversity. In the introduction to *The Imagination Game*, McEwan suggests that during the Second World War, women's "moral and emotional commitment was vital, for they were the living embodiment of what the men fought to

protect". And in the preface to *A Moveable Feast* (where the genesis of *The Innocent* is sketched), he describes how in Orwell's *Nineteen Eighty-Four* sex is a fragile resistance: "all that Orwell had to pose against the mighty, stultifying regime of Oceania is a man and a woman making love in a wood." This symbolism is at work in *The Child in Time*, where the enemy is a corrupting, right-wing state, and in the new novel, which is set amid the intrigue of Berlin at the start of the Cold War.

In *The Innocent*, Leonard matures when he acknowledges his love and his sexual feelings for Maria. Their love gives his world structure; their bed is rightly at the centre of their lives. But McEwan does not deny the intricacies of sexual identity (Maria has been married before) or the old destructive urges ("He could not believe she would not be aroused by it... She had to give him what was his"). The thwarting of desire is a creative force. "He would never get her back. He had to get her back." Still ambivalent - affirmative or dangerous? - the compulsion is like the contradiction at the end of Beckett's trilogy: "you must go on, I can't go on, I'll go on."

This novel, like McEwan's first, concerns the disposal of a corpse, the dead weight of which ruins the relationship. Just as Macbeth murders sleep, Leonard and Maria dismember their love affair. "What they were about to do now would block their way forever... therefore what they were doing was wrong." The sexual urge, which affirms its own rightness, can also make moral judgements.

In these recent novels, sex is not an inadequate guilty dream, but a reverie of self-discovery, a revelation. McEwan has turned his expertise with the grotesque to new purpose: by exploring the aspects of ourselves we see in deepest intimacy, he has shown what was missing from his early fiction, and given his characters something tremendous to lose.

● Ian McEwan's *The Innocent* is published on Thursday by Jonathan Cape (£12.95)



Ian McEwan: his stories now exploit positive as well as negative aspects of eroticism

## Artists offer a lead

Andrew Gibbon Williams welcomes the first fruits of a new artistic independence which has been unilaterally declared in Latvia

Had the Politburo required more solid evidence that Latvia was about to declare independence, it need have looked no further than a conference held in Riga a fortnight ago. The International Art Exhibition Organizers, Art Museum Directors, and Art Dealers conference was set up with ominous haste by the Latvian ministry of culture, with the dual purpose of asserting the country's independent artistic identity and forging autonomous links with the foreign art world. The majority of the delegates were from the newly liberated Eastern European republics, although Scandinavia, France and Germany were also represented. Earlier planning would no doubt have led to a greater Western presence. Pointedly, no Russians were invited and no Russian was spoken.

It was clear from the opening speech, delivered by the Latvian minister of culture, that the small Baltic republic feels its separate artistic heritage has been swamped and debased by nearly half a century of political domination. The main message to the foreign arts administrators was that in future they should deal directly with Riga in matters of cultural exchange, rather than channelling their efforts through the Soviet ministry of culture in Moscow. As Andrew Brown, director of Edinburgh's 369 gallery and the only British delegate, commented: "It was as if the Scottish Arts Council, feeling hijacked and undermined by the Arts Council of Great Britain, had decided to do something about it."

At the Latvian union of artists' annual spring exhibition, held in the exhibition hall of the Latvia Hotel, there was ample evidence that the country's pride in its native artists is justified. A smattering of now discredited socialist realism testified to Stalin's unhappy artistic legacy, and a profusion of uninspired potboilers showed the older members of the artistic establishment to be no more adventurous than their Western counterparts. But several young talents shone out from the dross: among them Janis

Mitrevics, who paints enormous figurative compositions with the angry dynamism of John Hoyland, and Aija Zariņa, who uses the myth of Europa and the Bull to comment upon the Soviet Union's rape of her homeland.

It is clear from a short visit to the Latvian National Gallery - an ornate, pseudo-Baroque, turn-of-the-century symbol of Latvian nationalism - that these young artists have a distinguished, expressive Colourist tradition to build upon. Two artists in particular show that Riga was *au fait* with the revolutionary movements of Paris and Berlin. Rosentals (the father of 20th-century Latvian art) trained at St Petersburg Academy, and made his reputation with elegant, Serov-like portraits of the Baltic bourgeoisie, but became a precocious convert to Fauvism. Walters combined Matisse's colour with Munch's symbolism.

Associative with the conference were studio visits designed to introduce dealers to promising artists. German and Norwegian galleries in particular snapped up potentially hot property. These studio visits served to reveal yet more of the wealth of decorative arts and architecture secreted for so long behind the Iron Curtain: the artist Francesca Kirke, for example, works in a superb Art Deco house crammed with precious Latvian arts and crafts furniture. Riga's new Museum of Decorative Arts, in a converted medieval church, opens shortly.

Meanwhile, in the wake of the Marlborough gallery's showing of Francis Bacon, the Moscow art public is being exposed to the giant photo-montages of Gilbert and George, taken to Moscow by the Anthony d'Offay gallery (the pair and their jet-setting entourage turned up at their vernissage at the new Tretyakov gallery). Even in these days of *glasnost*, the unsavoury content of these works strikes a decadent note in a tawdry city of spare shelves and dissatisfied consumers. If the Russians' comments at the private view were anything to go by, it would seem that while McDonalds may be welcome, this absurdly expensive, trivial museum art is not.

## Dancing with the common herd

MARKET forces apply even to the independent music scene. Two years ago the Inspiral Carpets, like their fellow Mancunians the Stone Roses and Happy Mondays, would hardly have been called a dance band. Then came the rise of Acid House/Rave culture, with well-attended dance parties taking place all over the South East.

Police blockades on the M25 and impending legislation have all but ended these orbital high-jinks. Raves have become institutionalized and, instead of happening in fields near motorways, take place indoors at established rock venues.

The consequence is that participants are now entertained by bands as opposed to DJs: hence last month's Black Box and Happy Mondays events at the London and Wembley arenas. The main contribution of "Rave" culture to contemporary mores has been to give formerly passive fans a passion to dance. Groups such as those named above have had to satisfy this demand and modify their music accordingly.

The relationship between act and audience is, by the standards of the music industry, now extraordinarily democratic. The group comes to play for the fans,

### ROCK

Mike Nicholls

Inspirational  
Brixton Academy

rather than the fans simply coming to see and worship their favourite recording stars in the flesh, without questioning their supremacy.

Into the new social phenomenon step the Inspiral Carpets, beneficiaries of this discreet revolution. Their recent hit, "This Is How It Feels", is among the best singles of the year so far, its nagging keyboard figure and late Sixties harmonies offering a challenging combination of reference points. Followers of The Jam will have recognized similarities with their obscure classic, "The Butterfly Collector", although there are other influences which can clearly be discerned.

Keyboard-player Clint Boon sounds as though he is on loan from the Stranglers, while singer Tom Hingley sounds disturbingly like Julian Cope at his most psychedelic when he was with Teardrop Explodes. The busy

light-show, early-psychedelia image and indeed their name, suggest that the Inspiral Carpets have sought their inspiration from that era.

On the credit side, they are a tight live band with no shortage of material, derivative or otherwise. Before signing to the highly credible independent Mute Records, they released several singles on their own Cow label.

Some of those early recordings were included in the set, along with virtually all the songs on their album, *Life*, which entered the charts at number two. There were other tunes too, indicating that the group can be classed as prolific songwriters as well as fluid players.

Helped by their entertaining backdrops (documentary footage, tabloid headlines and so on), the Inspirals have a charisma lacking in many of today's young bands. Their fans show appreciation of this by chorusing "Moo!" between songs: a reference to the band's Cow records logo.

When they start to write material original enough to match the confidence of their sound, Inspiral Carpets will be welcome to keep on playing until the cows come home.

## Funny old game, football

TELEVISION  
Sheridan Morley

VIEWERS in Bournemouth, picking up the broken glass after Saturday's soccer rioting, will have had some cause to doubt the claim of a new Yorkshire Television series that football is *The Greatest Game on Earth*. In support of its title, the first of four films, made over two years in nine World Cup countries, came up with the news that soccer is played in more nations than belong to the UN and that this summer's cup will be watched by 15 billion people, three times the world's population.

I am still worrying about that figure. Is everyone going to watch the World Cup three times? Are all 15 billion, including presumably residents of Mars watching via satellite, going to tune in simultaneously or are the viewing figures merely going to be assessed at the moment when 15 billion people tune in, see that it's the bloody football again, and wander off to the video shop leaving their sets playing only for the statisticians?

Such burning questions were not addressed by Yorkshire's new series, nor was my hope that Sardinia might be turned into an all-football island.

The island (where the opening summer matches in the World Cup are being played, as a worldwide tribute to British hooliganism and the need to keep our soccer fans surrounded by as much water as possible) would be entirely inhabited by players and their audiences. In this way, the rest of the world could get on with a goal-free life.

But what *The Greatest Game on Earth* did consider was the fact that in Egypt they now keep armed soldiers on the pitch, alongside an impartial German referee who nesses back to the airport before the crowd can kill him. Meanwhile, in Naples, they have named pizzas, steaks and several children after Diego Maradona, who gets £10,000 per goal, £25,000 per interview, and 25 per cent of the proceeds from all souvenirs sold in his name.

He also has so much painkiller inside him that his limbs have to be scraped clear of it every three months. Nor is the game that much easier in the Soviet Union: "Go out there", a coach was seen telling his teenage team "and kick their legs in". The TV Times, advertising the programme, calls football "a glorious obsession": trying telling that this morning to the mayor of Bournemouth.

Increased television coverage of world affairs does not always mean that we know much more about the affairs themselves. Channel 4's *Cutting Edge* last night reported a war in Angola, fought by Cuban and South African guest soldiers, few of whom seem even now to have much idea of which side won or for precisely what they were fighting. Doubtless they will soon take up football.

## Testament of affection

### CONCERTS

Paul Griffiths

Michael Vyner  
Memorial Concert  
Covent Garden

ANY concert hoping to be a total tribute to Michael Vyner would have to last not three and a half hours but as many weeks, stocked with the 85 pieces he commissioned for the London Sinfonietta plus the complete works of Stravinsky, Tippett, Webern, Weill and all the other modern masters his festivals presented.

Sunday's concert could only hope to give a small part of Vyner, and inevitably it missed out on his flamboyance and fun. But the quite extraordinary succession of conductors - David Atherton, Bernard Haitink, Oliver Knussen, Simon Rattle, Witold Lutoslawski, Esa-Pekka Salonen - testified to the respect, prestige and affection the Sinfonietta enjoyed during the 17 years of his directorship, while the no less spectacular sequence of new works was some indication of how much he is missed by composers.

I almost wrote that they were the main beneficiaries of his tireless work in promoting new music, but that would be untrue: we all were. The 1970s and 1980s would have been musically so much duller without him; the 1990s will be, unless his spirit can somehow be made to survive.

Of the eight pieces composed for this occasion, the briefest was Berio's *Leaf*, a witty and charming prevarication with a few chords, beautifully turned by Paul Cross-

ley, who later played Takemitsu's *Litany* in two movements, Japanese Berg and quasi-Messiaen, oddly developed from music the composer wrote 40 years ago. Crossley was also the soloist in Henze's *Intrositus*, promised as the first movement of a Requiem for instruments, and offering a hefty five minutes after its delicate, high treble opening.

Two other composers chose the violin as solo instrument, remembering Vyner's own history as a violinist, and surely incorporating more personal messages. Oliver Knussen admitted as much, stating that his *Secret Song* somehow encoded a work Vyner always mentioned when playing the game of choosing music for his own funeral: Norma Liddell showed a piece with a regretful smile on its face, though the secret was kept. She was also the soloist touchingly left alone at the end of Nigel Osborne's *Eulogy*.

From Peter Maxwell Davies there was a short, solemn slow movement, *Threnody on a Plain* -



Paul Crossley: a soloist here and new LS artistic director

song, and from Henryk Gorecki a long *Good Night*, of which we heard only the final third, setting a phrase from Horatio's farewell to Hamlet for soprano (Margaret Field), alto flute, piano and tam-tams in a style so minimal as almost to have vanished.

Much the most impressive memorial came from Harrison Birtwistle in his *Ritual Fragment*. The musicians sit stretched in an arc across the stage, with a bass drum signaller in front, and take turns to play solos at the centre, like mourners laying flowers on a coffin, except that the tone is more electric than funeral, even if the initial fast-moving of melodies is gradually reduced to ticking ostinatos. A beautiful piece, beautifully performed. Vyner would have been proud of his family.

## Pleasure in shifting tonal colours

Noël Goodwin

LPO/Tennstedt  
Festival Hall

IN THE 20 years since Kyung-Wha Chung made her diminutive first appearance on this platform, with time taken to marry and have a family, she has given more consistent pleasure in my experience than most solo violinists over a similar span. She did so again with Bruch's G minor Concerto in this programme, lifting it to a poetic realm by her line of thought, and with these beguiling shifts of tonal colour to which Richard Morrison drew attention in his profile of her on this page last Saturday.

The way she plays is less a matter of instinct now, of course, and more a considered approach, with technique put at the service of a musical sensibility in which crisp articulation and subtlety of shading are basic qualities. The raptures and wonder of her entry in the slow movement, stealing in on the breath of melody, was complemented by her vivacity and character in the finale and matched by the London Philharmonic's support.

The LPO, with Klaus Tennstedt, made a strong finish in its last South Bank concert before it takes up its summer residency at Glyndebourne. Following only three nights after Kurt Masur as a guest conductor, Tennstedt began somewhat uncharacteristically with the revels of *Night on the Bare Mountain*, here owing less to Mussorgsky than to Rimsky-Korsakov's orchestral smooth polish, as if the spirits of darkness were somehow to be made

environmentally friendly. The drama was kept until last. Brahms's First Symphony, from the ominous introduction on to the fateful finale, was a forceful yet often radiant performance, the essential outlines well prepared in rehearsal, but leaving something to add in spontaneous response as the conductor shaped it with the

left hand's curving palm or stabbing forefinger. It was surprising only to find he made no repeat of the first-movement exposition; the rest had majestic purpose and orchestral splendour, not least in the warmth of string playing, though it was the first oboist to whom Tennstedt offered public congratulations at the end.

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**PREVIEW FROM MAY 16 OPENS MAY 23**

**RICHARD HARRIS**  
**ISLA BLAIR**  
**IAN HOGG**  
**HAROLD INNOCENT**  
**PIRANDELLO'S HENRY IV**

TRANSLATED BY  
**JOHN WARDLE & ROBERT RIETTY**

WITH  
**HOWARD BELL, ROGER CHAMBERLAIN, PAUL CORRIGAN,**  
**HOWARD CROSSLEY, SARAH-JANE FENTON, ANDY HOCKLEY,**  
**CRISTIN REDMAN, REG STEWART, JAMES WALKER**

DIRECTED BY **VAL MAY**

SET DESIGNED BY **TIM GOODCHILD**  
LIGHTING DESIGNED BY **BRIAN HARRIS**

COSTUMES DESIGNED BY **LIE DA COSTA**  
SOUND DESIGNED BY **PAUL ARDITTI**

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## FASHION

# Making the pieces fit for the High Street

Jigsaw's clothes  
can be worn by  
everyone — and  
still be individual,  
Dinah Hall  
reports

As the fashion vultures hover over the parched wilderness of the High Street, waiting to pick over the bones of the next recession-hit shop, what lessons can be learnt from the cactus factor — those shops which seem to be blooming on barren ground?

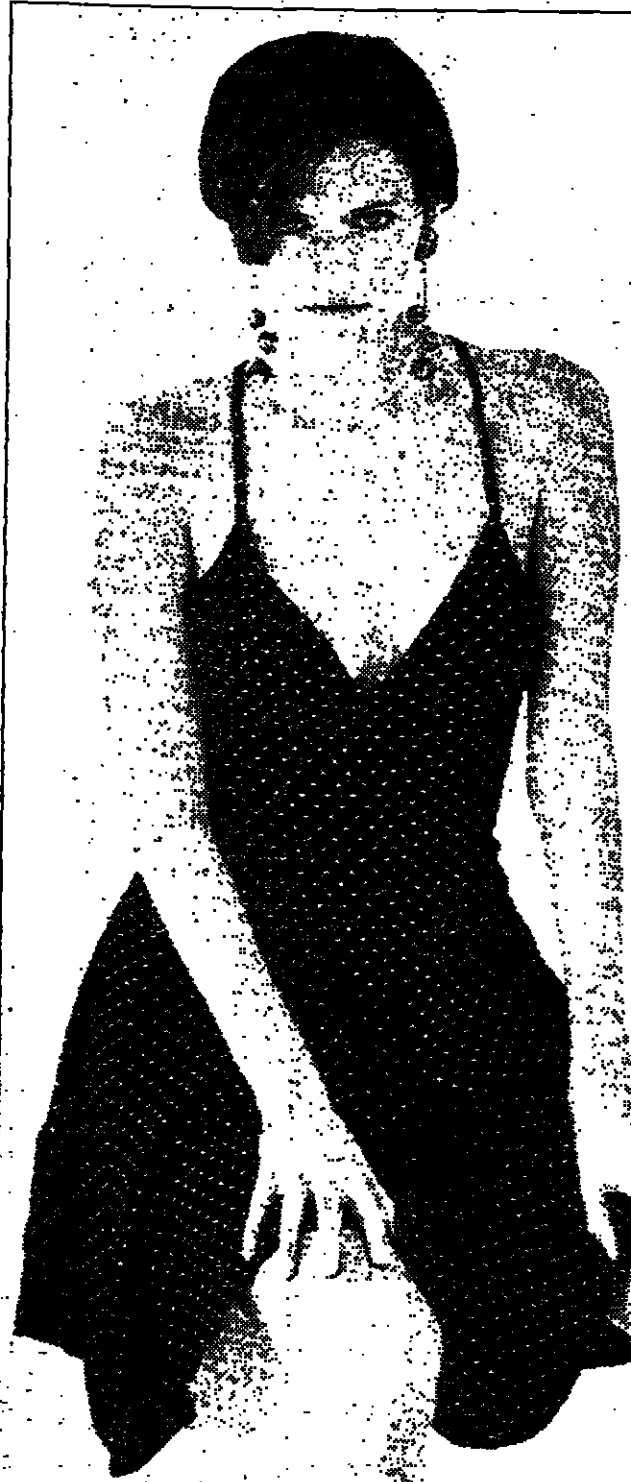
Jigsaw is colonizing the capital, having gone thoroughly against the grain by working its way in from the gentler fringes of outer London with shops in Richmond, Kingston, Hampstead and the provinces. It has recently opened its Kings Road branch — the nineteenth member of the family. "Chain" is a word Jigsaw shies away from, for, although the shops may all have the same generic make-up, and at least 90 per cent of the same stock, they are quite individual in character (cool and woody in Richmond, street-wise and zappy in Kensington).

For the moment the sun — and the fashion press — are shining upon Jigsaw, and it's certainly not because they make a journalist's life easy. Photographing the clothes presents no problem — like the customers, you simply sweep up armfuls of loose pleated linen skirts, washed silk shirts and polka-dot dresses, of a style to please everyone and a price to frighten no one. But the interview is a different matter. This is trial by ordeal.

John Robinson, who set up Jigsaw in 1980, will only be interviewed as part of a team of designers and merchandisers. To the journalist facing six pairs of wary eyes across a huge conference table in Jigsaw's spacious Kew headquarters this can seem like obstruction, but it's a philosophy which probably goes a long way to explaining the success of his business.

Mr Robinson, looking more like the manager of a board-yard in his jeans and a blue jumper than an emperor of fashion, puts the success down to the fact that the company is design-based, "not run by accountants". Given this, it is only right that the designers should be given equal say in interviews.

The round-the-table approach is used when it comes to work as well. The designers don't sit in creative isolation, they say, "but get round the table and pool our ideas". But this doesn't result in consensus dressing, for, "although we work well as a team, everyone has different views". And that, perhaps, is the key to Jigsaw's success: the clothes are accessible to a wide range of people (mothers shopping with their daughters are a common



sight) but retain the individuality which sets them aside from the mainstream or the mediocre.

Paradoxically, perhaps, the designers are particularly proud of the fact that people can wear Jigsaw clothes without them being immediately identifiable as such, because "they are designed to be worn in an individual way". Inspiration, they say, comes from simply keeping their eyes open, from seeing someone on the street or in a magazine. By definition, then, they are not one step ahead. "No," they say, "we're one step aside. But we're not slavishly following anyone else. And, most importantly, we're allowed to have the courage of our convictions."

Mr Robinson, whose background is in manufacturing, seems to manage the company intuitively rather than by particular "business plan".

Asked how he judges where to open shops (Cheltenham and Chester aren't doing so well, but he is confident that Manchester and Cambridge, where he plans to set up next, would be good spots for Jigsaw), he says he simply goes on hearsay. No elaborate market research, no accountants holding them back...

This month, Jigsaw is introducing a designer label: another round-the-table decision. Helen Storey has designed a line of clothes — recognizably hers in stretch sequins, denim and silk, but able to take advantage of Jigsaw's mass production and prices. Mr Robinson believes getting designer names in to the High Street is the way of the future but has no idea whether it will work.

And, to his credit, instead of taking the usual cautious — not to say patronizing — British business attitude of restricting the company to a pilot launch in central London before committing itself to the rest of the country, the Helen Storey label will be available nationwide at the end of May.

They do not deny, however, that there is a difference between London and the rest of the country. "They still want the quality outside London, but there is definitely a price barrier," says shop manager Helen Dyson.

"They tend to go more for the T-shirting rather than 'investment clothing'. It's to do with different lifestyles. Linen tends to sell very well in London, whereas our rib stuff does well throughout the country, as does silk."

Liz Smith is on holiday



Silver crochet cardigan, £46; black and white dog's-tooth check linen shorts, £38, Jigsaw. Frosted acrylic earrings, £30; bangles from £25 by Campbell & Cowie. Way In, Harrods, SW1: The Outlaw Club, 49 Endell Street, WC2; Chameleon, 13-15 Church Street, Kingston; 5 Burton Street, Bath; 2 Calverly Street, Tunbridge Wells

## HOTLINE

## Today's fashion set for history

FEW designers, it seems, care about a place in history — they would rather have a couple of spreads in *Vogue* than a showing in the costume department of the Victoria and Albert Museum.

But not so Caroline Charles, who has a small display of her clothes, celebrating 10 years in Beauchamp Place, at the V&A until September.

"We are very anxious to keep our collection up to date: it's essential that we have a running continuity of styles," says Avril Hart, research assistant in the museum's Textiles, Furnishings and Dress department.

"But we can't just go out and buy; we rely on gifts, and not enough designers are coming up with the goods," she says. "They seem to think they're not being appreciated if their clothes are put into store. In fact, we get a huge number of people coming to see the reserve stock by appointment. And, of course, things can get pulled out of store for special exhibition years later."

The "historical" verdict on Caroline



Caroline Charles at the V&A

Charles, who has been a leading fashion name for 27 years, having trained with couturier Michael Sherard in the 1960s, is pretty much in accord with that of the fashion editors, if couched in more academically reserved language.

"She's a classical designer with a very good sense of colour," Ms Hart says. "Her clothes are attractive, wearable and flattering."

Judge for yourself: the display, which includes her sensational head-encrusted jackets, is on view from today.

## Uniform design

NEXT week the check-in staff of the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express will be sporting a new uniform — a navy blue suit with a long jacket and slightly flared skirt, designed by Alistair Blair. Blair follows other designers who have got into uniform: among them, Jeff Banks and his outfits for the Guides and Brownies, Monica Chong's designs for the BUPA medical staff and Ealing Health Authority, and Arabella Pollen's designs for the Virgin airline.

DH

Above: Sky-blue and white spotted dungarees, £49.95; white silk top, £68, white gym shoes, £12, Jigsaw. Above left: Navy and white polka-dot slip dress, £49, Jigsaw. Drop earrings, £24, Pellini, Liberty, W1; Harrods, SW1; Harvey Nichols, SW1. All clothes available from Jigsaw, 65 Kensington High Street, W8 and branches in London, Richmond, Kingston, Guildford, Bath, Bristol, Cheltenham, Chester, Newcastle, Glasgow and Belfast. Hair and make-up by Teresa Fairminer for Ellishelen. Photographs by ANTHONY CRICKMAY

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Ann Blockley, the Watercolour artist, has taken this splendid farmyard pair as the theme for her latest tapestry. Both the cock and the hen are a rich combination of nut and mahogany brown, golden and primrose yellow, pink sage, peacock and deep green, scarlet and russet. The ferns and leaves in the foreground are pale olive russet. The design is surrounded by a narrow border of hens in autumn brown on an olive background. It makes a lovely, fresh tapestry that would go well anywhere.

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## THE LAW

# Act takes judges back to 'school'

Later this month, a massive training programme to prepare about 1,000 judges for handling cases under the Children Act 1989 gets under way. It is the most ambitious training programme ever mounted for the judiciary in response to new law.

The idea is to prepare judges of all ranks — High Court, county court, registrars, stipendiary magistrates — and also justices' clerks for the radically different approach to handling disputes involving children when the Act comes into force in October, 1991.

A series of 17 seminars — or "roadshows" — will be mounted by the Judicial Studies Board, the body charged with judicial training around the country. The series begins in Manchester on May 21. At each of the seminars about 50 judges will be invited to jettison old assumptions about handling disputes involving children and to develop new attitudes on the subject.

The Children Act 1989 is not only a revolution in the law itself, bringing together in one statute all the law on children, whether it concerns removal of a child into local authority care and the parents' right of access, or a private dispute between divorcing couples and the question of responsibility for the child. The Act also, for the first time, creates a special court system for the handling of children's cases with a single set of rules and procedures.

The old system, with its often muddled, bizarre and unfair set of laws, has been swept away along with the anomalies which often meant a different law and procedure depending on which court the case started in.

When the Act is in force, the same law on children's cases will apply

**An ambitious series of seminars will help judges develop fresh and consistent views on children and the law, Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent, writes**

whether the case is before magistrates or in the High Court. It creates, in effect, an "embryo" Family Court for children's cases: a single jurisdiction where there are specialist, trained judges and cases can move up or down to the appropriate tier of tribunal.

All this has justified an unprecedented programme of training for the judiciary. It breaks new ground in a number of ways. Firstly, judges will be trained or taught *en masse*, irrespective of rank. This is a symbol, according to one of the coordinators, Mr Justice Johnson, of the fact that for the first time the same law will apply, whatever the court.

Secondly, they will be taught by non-judges. The seminars will be conducted by teams of academics, child psychiatrists, court welfare officers and guardians *ad litem* the senior social workers who represent the child's interests.

Thirdly, the programme will result in a specialist corps of "children's judges". These will be 100 or so circuit judges selected from the 225 on the initial training who, in the programme's second phase, will go on three-day residential courses next year. Above all, the pro-

gramme puts judicial training firmly on the agenda.

Until recently, the very concept of training was unacceptable to judges. The extensive work of the Judicial Studies Board in this respect was under the guise of "study seminars", or "refresher courses". But judges themselves now talk of training. "No one is daft enough now to believe you learn it all on the job," Mr Justice Johnson says.

Away from the public eye, however, the board has already made huge strides in judicial training. It was set up in 1963, a judge-created body, to hold discussions on sentencing. Then, in 1985, with the encouragement of Lord Hailsham, the then Lord Chancellor, it was revamped. The result was four committees: criminal, civil and family, magisterial and tribunals, under a Court of Appeal judge as chairman. At present this is Lord Justice Glidewell.

A key part of the board's work has always been criminal. Its role in promoting consistency of approach in the courts is crucial; through disseminating guideline judgments of the Lord Chief Justice; through induction courses for novice judges (assistant recorders), and through refresher courses for experienced judges (all must attend every five years).

With the Children Act, however, and the legal reforms going through Parliament, the board will face a huge expansion in work on the civil side. Its budget has been increased from £1 million to £1.5 million to cope with this (and the work from the Children Act) alone. Under the legal reforms, many disputes will be moved from the High Court down to the county court and many circuit judges, accustomed to criminal cases, will have to tackle large numbers of civil disputes.

The board also has programmes



Future games: the Children Act aims at judicial consistency

under way to train the "trainers" of the 27,000 lay magistrates, as well as the chairmen of the many different tribunals throughout the country (immigration, VAT, pensions appeals). This is a huge task there are, for example, 4,000 General Commissioners of Income Tax alone.

Lord Justice Glidewell believes

there is no likelihood of a move in this country towards a Continental-style career structure for judges, where they are trained for the job from an early stage.

However, he says: "The whole trend of the board's work is towards making judges more professional than they were and that must be good."

## INNS AND OUTS

As the struggle over the right of English lawyers to practise in Paris continues, with righteous indignation coming almost exclusively from this side of the Channel, a delve into the history books puts a different complexion on the debate. The English are up in arms over the French Bar's proposal that all foreign lawyers take a test before practising their home law in France. As suggested in the May issue of *International Financial Law Review*, it is the English lawyers' fault that a test exists at all.

Michel Petite, the European Community Commission official who pushed through the directive on the mutual recognition of diplomas, which contains the controversial provision, is quoted as saying the French moves were: "ironically exactly what we wanted to avoid with the directive — but we were prevented by the British delegation." He claims the delegation was at the forefront on the opposition to straightforward and automatic mutual recognition and insisted on additional tests. Calling the delegation's objections, "a strategic and tactical error of a grandiose nature", M. Petite argues that they should have recognized the mistake "because who exports lawyers? Not the French but the British." Hope of any help from the Commission for British firms in Paris seems to be fading fast.

Lawyers, law students and academics from all over the UK met at the University of Warwick 10 days ago to review the position of British lawyers in relation to the apartheid regime in South Africa after the recent release of Nelson Mandela and the unbanning of the African National Congress. Lawyers Against Apartheid (LAA), a group affiliated to the anti-apartheid movement, has close links with Nadel, the National Association of Democratic Lawyers in South Africa. According to the group's secretary, barrister Mark Guthrie, British lawyers offer specialized support work, research and practical help to Nadel. The group also initiated the campaign that resulted in the Law Society's disinvestment from South Africa.

The meeting was addressed by Chris Waters, a Johannesburg attorney; Paskalis Makhatha, an ANC representative; Lucia Otto, from Satis, the group representing the interests of political prisoners in South Africa; and Brian Hurwitz, a South African lawyer now working in the UK. The speakers reported that after an initial period of euphoria following Mandela's release, concern is mounting among lawyers that levels of political repression have not diminished and that common-law public order offences are still being used to inhibit peaceful protest. They called on British lawyers not to decrease their support for Nadel's work and for the dismantling of apartheid legislation. The group also considered the thorny question of Namibia's international debts and the issue of whether the Namibian government should be held liable for debts incurred by the South African administration.

The recent announcement that Baker & McKenzie's London office was the first law firm to win the Queen's Award for Export Achievement came just as the British Invisible Exports Council released its annual statistics. Lawyers, in particular, have shown a dramatic increase in foreign earnings over the past decade. In 1987, the overseas earnings of solicitors and barristers combined equaled a total £44 million. By 1988, it had risen to £300 million. What with Big Bang and 1992, that may not seem surprising, but in terms of the Queen's Award, why was Baker & McKenzie the first firm to receive the accolade?

Perhaps the answer lies in the fact that the London office is part of an international partnership based in Chicago and as such, the 48 or so offices worldwide have always placed great emphasis on servicing US clients overseas. It might be more interesting to compare Baker & McKenzie's UK earnings with some of the City firms. Then again, why did firms such as Linklaters & Paines and Clifford Chance not qualify for the award, considering the great increase in their earnings? Maybe they are still shy of revealing how much they earn, even to the Queen.

Solicitors are planning to keep these invisible export earnings rising high as 1992 approaches, but in what looks increasingly like a huge marketing exercise, the need to capture the new spirit of international cooperation in a suitable name is acute. The latest announcement that London firm Baileys, Shaw & Gillen has co-founded a European Economic Interest Grouping with firms from West Germany, France, Brussels, Italy and Spain would seem to have veered slightly from the ideal. The group is saddled with the almost unpronounceable title *Legalliance* — which makes it sound rather more like a professional indemnity policy than a European legal grouping.

University College London has achieved a notable first. It has appointed Professor Hiroshi Oda, at present an associate professor of law at the University of Tokyo, as the Sir Ernest Satow Professor of Japanese Law, the first time that the holder of an established post in a Japanese law faculty has moved to a European or North American university. With his extensive knowledge of Soviet and East European law, Professor Oda plans to develop the faculty's East-West law coverage, as well as their Japanese law programme, which will include courses for practitioners and postgraduates.

Scrivener

## Numbers game adds up to a profession's loss

The Law Society is changing its training system to answer the call for more and better recruits

JUST 10 years ago, the Law Society, the solicitors' governing body, revamped its training system. The changes were meant to last until the end of the century and to revolutionize an archaic and tediously rote-learned regime. Now the society is in the throes of another re-think because the system is providing too few good quality recruits.

Every year, up to 7,000 qualified people are trying to squeeze through the last turnstile into the profession — the year-long Law Society finals course. Just over 4,000 course places are available nationally. All of these aspiring solicitors will have a law degree or the equivalent; many will have spent two years working in a solicitor's firm doing another stage in their training, as articulated trainees, formerly known as articled clerks.

Most, therefore, are committed to a career in the law. Avrom Scherr, director of Legal Practice at Warwick University, says: "All law teachers know that they have stu-

dents of excellent standard who cannot get a place on the finals course. Something has to be done about that."

Even if students win the numbers game, the cost of the finals course can be the final disincentive to joining the profession. Local authority discretionary grants are drying up. Fees at the main provider of the course places, the College of Law (training arm of the Law Society), now top £2,000.

Although polytechnics charge considerably less, they offer far fewer places and are also expected to increase their prices now that they are independent, self-financing bodies. The whole system is becoming increasingly discouraging, particularly for a range of mature or financially disadvantaged entrants at a time when demographic change threatens the supply of new lawyers in the 1990s.

However, the demand for them is there. The phenomenal growth of the legal profession during the



1980s — more than 50 per cent — and the development of legal services has created what is known as the "recruitment crisis".

The biggest demand comes from the large commercial firms, who now pay their trainees salaries undreamt of 10 years ago — £18,000 in some cases — way above the Law Society minima. They will often bear the cost of finals fees. The trend seems to have resulted in enormous shortages elsewhere, in high-street legal-aid practices and the grossly

under-staffed Crown Prosecution Service.

Yet it is not just a numbers game. The 1980s have seen a revolution in law teaching and in the expectations of employers. New law is coming thick and fast from Westminster and Brussels.

Lawyers, more than ever before, must be able to find their way around the law rather than relying on what they learnt at college. The 1980 finals course, like its predecessor, has now been condemned by many as being too bogged down with teaching black letter law and not paying enough attention to legal skills.

In response, the Law Society produced radical proposals at the beginning of the year for a six-months finals course which would contain more skills teaching and marginally less law. Articled clerks would also get further formal training in a four-week "professional skills course". The proposals could effectively double the throughput of the finals course machinery.

The Law Society's council will consider a revamped proposal on May 17, at a special meeting. There is great doubt whether the six-

month course proposal has survived the extended period of consultation.

Initial opposition to the changes came from the College of Law itself, arguing that the quality of the law component would inevitably suffer from the cut in teaching time. Misgivings were also expressed about opening the system up to more independent educational bodies, such as polytechnics, and allowing them to assess and examine their own students. Most of all, the changes would place unprecedented pressures on an educational system facing a recruitment crisis of its own.

Proponents of change say that with the continuing growth of mandatory post-qualification training, and requirements preventing new solicitors practicing on their own account, the learning process now stretches much further into the future. This makes the concentrated, once-for-all finals exam redundant, according to Mr Scherr. Can the legal profession afford to keep employers and would-be recruits waiting on each side of the turnstile?

Sally Hughes

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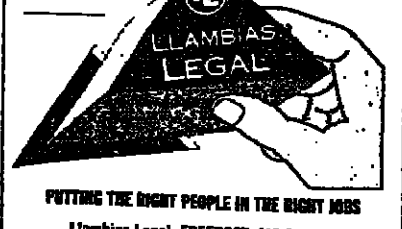
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## THE LAW

# The dubious question of proof

## LEGAL BRIEF

Last week a report by the Police Complaints Authority concluded that internal police disciplinary hearings against dishonest officers are surrounded by

far too much secrecy, Stephen Grosz argues the case for reform

Police malpractice of the kind revealed in the West Midlands Serious Crimes Squad and the case of the Guildford Four will continue until the police disciplinary system is radically reformed.

We need to change the way complaints are dealt with in two fundamental respects: the standard of proof and the method of internal inquiry. The first change seems to have the support of Sir Peter Imbert, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, and the second of the Police Federation.

Consider a typical example of how the system works. Mr R, a Jamaican businessman, was picked up in a north London suburb in the early hours of the morning after leaving a party. He was abused, searched and taken to a police station, where he was charged with being drunk and disorderly. Two police sergeants claimed they had found him staggering in the middle of the road, waving his arms about and shouting. In court, they could not agree on what he was doing, and the case was thrown out.

Mr R then sued the police. Three witnesses, who had parted company shortly before he was arrested, insisted that he was completely sober. A county court jury awarded him damages.

He then made a complaint to the police. But the Police Complaints Board (as it then was) said that since the Director of Public Prosecutions had decided not to

bring criminal charges against the sergeants, they could not bring disciplinary charges — the so-called "double jeopardy" rule. Mr R took the complaints board to the High Court, which said that the board had been wrong. The board then directed that the officers, one of whom was by now an inspector, should be disciplined.

The complainant gave his evidence at a closed hearing, in which the case was presented and judged by policemen. The tribunal could not be sure that Mr R had not gone back into the party and become drunk in the 10 minutes between being left by his friends and being found by the police. The officers were cleared.

Having won his case in two courts, Mr R could have little faith in a private disciplinary tribunal which allowed the officers to get off, particularly when, a few years later, one of them was convicted of offences connected with the theft of drugs.

Mr R's case happened some years ago, but the system is no better today. An officer can be found guilty of a disciplinary charge only if it is proved to the

criminal standard, ie, "beyond a reasonable doubt". As a result, few charges are brought and only a small proportion is proved. Yet this standard is unnecessarily high and is wrong in principle. Someone charged with a criminal offence risks prison or a fine and will be branded as a criminal. It is right that the power of the

state should be wielded against him or her only if a judge or jury is satisfied, so that they are sure that he or she is guilty. But a disciplinary charge is different — even where the offence alleged is also a criminal act. Disciplinary sanctions range from dismissal to caution, and the process is more like the normal disciplinary procedure in every employment relationship, where disciplinary

offences are considered proven if the evidence establishes that they are more likely to have been committed than not.

The public interest, particularly where the police are concerned, requires a different balance between the individual officer and the community. Police officers have considerable powers to arrest and detain suspects, to search them and take their fingerprints and to search their homes. Whether they have too much power or not enough, we are entitled to insist it is exercised only by officers of integrity.

Recently, civil actions against the police have resulted in jury findings — on the balance of probabilities — of serious misconduct by police officers and substantial awards of damages. The public is rightly scandalized to find that officers are often not formally disciplined because of the standard of proof. In 1985, the Court of Appeal doubted that the police were right in adopting the criminal standard in disciplinary proceedings. The Home Secretary's response was to enshrine the practice in the Police

(Discipline) Regulations to require them to do so. That requirement should be changed. By itself, this will not restore confidence in police disciplinary procedures as an effective weapon against police misconduct. Few will trust the system as long as the police investigate and discipline their own people behind closed doors.

No amount of reassurance from the Police Complaints Authority can remedy the perception of institutional bias born of the manner in which complaints are investigated and adjudicated on.

Doubts about the fairness of the system are shared by police officers. To be cleared by an internal inquiry does not give the clean bill of health which would result from vindication after a manifestly impartial investigation and a hearing before an independent tribunal. They, too, would like to see the system changed.

As long as the system remains unchanged, dishonest and violent police officers will continue to operate, safe in the knowledge that they are unlikely to be punished; and lack of confidence will lead more individuals who do not necessarily want damages to turn to the civil courts for a public and independent resolution of their complaints against the police.

• The author is a solicitor with Bindman and Co.



Sir Peter Imbert, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner: on complaints, he supports changing the standard of proof

## Law Report May 8 1990 Queen's Bench Divisional Court

### Clerks must read to justices the prosecution's written request for costs

*Regina v Coventry City Justices, Ex parte Director of Public Prosecutions*  
Before Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Potts  
[Judgment May 1]

It was incumbent upon clerks to justices to read out to the justices written applications for costs appended to the forms carrying written pleas of guilty where those were submitted under the procedure provided by section 12 of the Magistrates Courts Act 1980 for dealing with guilty pleas without the attendance at court of either prosecution or defendant.

It was necessary so to do to enable the justices to decide whether to award costs under section 12 of the Prosecution of Offences Act 1985.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held when granting the Director of Public Prosecutions judicial review, by way of declaratory judgment, of

the decision of Coventry Justices whereby they had refused to cause their clerk to read out to them a claim by the prosecution for costs in an uncontested motoring case.

The declaration was that: (a) A claim for costs by the prosecution against the defendant, in a case proceeding according to the provisions of section 12 of the Magistrates Courts Act 1980 might be notified to the defendant in the same document as contained the statement required to be made by the prosecution under section 12(1)(b) thereof, but if so notified did not form any part of the statement;

(b) If such a claim for costs was so notified, then when the document was before the court on the day fixed for the hearing of the matter, the claim be brought to the court's attention, and it would be the duty of the court to adjudicate thereon.

Prosecuting authorities

throughout the country made it a practice of appending to the statement of facts, which they were required by section 12 to send to the defendant, a claim for their costs which had been estimated at around £10 for the administration of such cases.

The practice had arisen in magistrates courts by which the clerks to justices declined to read out to the justices the application for costs and there was therefore no costs award in the absence of a representative of the prosecuting authority.

Mr John Laws for the applicant, the respondents did not appear and were not represented.

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS, giving the judgment of the court, said that the procedure had proved most beneficial. Used in about 200,000 to 250,000 cases a year, costs to the value of £2,500,000 were involved annually.

That figure would multiply many times if appearances had to be made before justices by either prosecutor or defence or both. There was therefore manifestly a need for the procedure to be universally followed and the prosecution's costs dealt with, provided defendants were clearly informed that an application had been made for them.

There was no prescribed form for applying for costs so the prosecutor was free to choose an appropriate manner.

In the present case the defendant had pleaded guilty by post to an offence of driving without due care and attention. Below a cogent statement of facts was a dotted line separating that from typed words saying costs of £10 were claimed under section 18 of the Prosecution of Offences Act 1985.

The CPS, scenting trouble, were attending the hearing and indeed following the recitation of

the statement of facts relating to the offence the clerk indicated that he did not wish to read, as requested, the claim for costs and advised the justices that they should not cause him to do so.

The reasons for doing so were that the clerk did not consider the application for costs to be properly a part of the statement of facts; it was improper for such an application to be considered by justices before they had decided, on the basis of the statement of facts, whether to accept the plea of guilty; the clerk should not make an application for costs of his own volition and if the prosecution wished to apply for their costs they should attend.

Neither the clerk nor the bench was represented before their Lordships. There was no provision for meeting their costs should they be called upon

to meet those of a successful party. That was regrettable and was a situation for which a remedy must be found.

His Lordship did not accept the submission of Mr Laws that the section 12(1) notice formed part of the statement of "facts relating to the charge". The statement of facts referred to in section 12 clearly referred to the facts relating to the offence charged.

They were set out specifically for the purpose of allowing a defendant the proper opportunity to consider what plea to tender. They had no other purpose. The nature of costs was an entirely independent issue and could not relate to the circumstances of the offence.

Mr Laws also submitted that nothing in section 12 of the Magistrates Courts Act or section 18 of the Prosecution of Offences Act required the attendance of the prosecutor for the

justices to be able to consider a claim for costs. The purpose of section 12 was to obviate the need for their attendance.

The effect of the justices' decision was to disapply section 18. They were not being asked to deal with the question of costs before deciding whether to accept a guilty plea.

There was no possible vice in the claim for costs being brought to their attention before they adjudicated on the plea. If the application for costs was not part of the statement of facts, Mr Laws submitted, section 12(5) did not prohibit the clerk drawing it to the justices' attention, otherwise they could not carry out their duty to adjudicate upon it. The clerk was not being asked to make the application of his own volition.

His Lordship considered Mr Laws was entirely right in all those submissions.

The instant application for costs might be said to be inappropriately placed where it was on the form required for the statement of facts but it was made clear that it was not, and was not meant to be a part of the statement of facts relating to the offence.

It might be that a separate form for making an application for costs and other matters such as the need to produce a driving licence which had to be brought to the attention of the court and of the defendant should be created. An alteration should be considered by the CPS in conjunction with justices clerks.

What it was absolutely necessary should happen forthwith was that the practice of not reading out the prosecutor's claim for costs had to cease. It was grossly improper not to bring the matter of costs to the attention of the justices, where the section 12 procedure was being followed.

Solicitors: DPP.

### Ambulance crew owe seat-belt duty of care to passenger

*Eastman v South West Thames Health Authority*  
Before Mr Justice Judge  
[Judgment May 4]

The duty of care owed by an ambulance crew to a passenger in the back of their vehicle included a duty to direct the passenger to a seat where there was a seat belt and to draw her attention to notices urging that a seat belt be worn. In the circumstances, the passenger's failure to wear a seat belt did not amount to contributory negligence.

Mr Justice Judge so held in the Queen's Bench Division giving judgment for Mrs Ivy Una Eastman for damages for injuries sustained through the negligence of the defendant health authority.

Mr Derek Sweeting for the plaintiff, Mr John Douglas for the defendants.

MR JUSTICE JUDGE said on February 24, 1986 Mrs Eastman was a passenger in the back of an ambulance being driven through Romford in Essex. She was accompanying her aged mother-in-law to hospital.

The ambulance driver braked sharply to avoid a schoolboy cyclist who had suddenly ridden into his path. Mrs Eastman was thrown out of her seat and sustained serious injuries.

His Lordship said did not accept that the ambulance had been driven negligently. He found as a fact that Mrs Eastman was unfamiliar with the inside of an ambulance, that she was concerned and anxious about her mother-in-law, and that she had been allowed to sit where she chose within the back of the ambulance.

She had sat in a seat behind the driver, opposite the attendant, Mr David Smith. She had not observed a seat belt and Mr Smith was not wearing one. Mrs Eastman had not seen the notice which stated "For your own safety use the seat belts provided" nor had Mr Smith drawn it to her attention.

The plaintiff's case was that given the known risks to passengers sitting in the back of ambulances the defendant's duty to take reasonable care for Mrs Eastman included a duty to identify the seat belt and encourage its use.

The defendant's case was that it had no duty to a passenger who was not a patient to provide a seat belt at all in the back of the ambulance and certainly no duty to see that it was used.

In *Frome v Butcher* ([1976] QB 286) the Court of Appeal had made it clear that in ordinary motor cases the damages to be awarded to a front seat passenger who was not wearing a seat belt, which would otherwise have made his injuries less severe, should be reduced.

Such a passenger should know all that he needed to know for himself and he could not blame the driver for not pointing it out to him. To that extent the decision in *Pasternack v Poulton* ([1973] 1 WLR 476) was overruled.

*Frome v Butcher* was binding on any court of first instance and had to be followed. But Mrs

Eastman was a passenger in the back of an ambulance, not in the front of a car.

She would not necessarily have known that seat belts were provided for sedentary passengers or indeed that sitting facing across the side of the car to the front carried a serious risk of injury.

The differences between a front-seat passenger in a car and a back-seat passenger in an ambulance were underlined by the fact that the defendant believed a warning notice was necessary and that, like other authorities with similar obligations, it encouraged its crews to try to persuade patients to use the seat belts.

In his Lordship's judgment, there was a duty on the defendant to take reasonable care for the safety of the plaintiff while she was a passenger in the back of its ambulance.

In the context of the accident, that obligation would have been satisfied if Mr Smith had indicated in some way to the plaintiff that she should be using a seat belt or even had he pointed out the warning notice to her.

It had been argued that even if liability was admitted damages should be reduced for contributory negligence.

However, whether the plaintiff was sitting in a chair with seat belts or not, she was not alerted to their use and the attendant was not using them.

If she had been given a warning and had ignored it her claim would have failed. As it was her claim succeeded in full.

Solicitors: Stephenson Harwood; Brachers, Maidstone.

### Reasons for prisoner's recall

*In re Hales*  
Before Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Potts  
[Judgment April 30]

The Home Office was under no duty to inform a paroled prisoner of the reasons for his recall to prison until his return there (see section 62(3) of the Criminal Justice Act 1967) and had explained that to his solicitor, the prisoner having then scented after recall, then subsequent costs and litigation could have been avoided.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so stated when refusing the application of Derek George Hales for a writ of *habeas corpus*.

Mr Bernard Buckley for the applicant.

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS, giving the judgment of the court,

said the applicant was serving a sentence of 21 months for offences of which he had been convicted in June 1988. He was given parole on December 28, 1988 subject to sections 60 and 62 of the 1967 Act.

On March 1, 1989 the Secretary of State for the Home Department revoked his licence which had the effect of requiring the applicant to be arrested and returned to prison. That did not in fact happen until March 21, 1990 when he was returned to Reading prison.

The applicant, who complained that he had not been informed of the reasons for his revocation, did not consult a solicitor concerning his grievance until August or September 1989.

In September the solicitor sent a letter, deserving a careful reply, to the Home Office. The

letter was referred to the probation service so that probation reports could be obtained and the probation service referred the matter back to the Home Office who communicated by telephone with the solicitor but sent no further letter.

What was called for was a letter from the Home Office to the solicitor informing him in terms why the licence had been revoked, the circumstances which were relevant subsequent to the revocation, including the fact that attempts had been made to arrest the applicant, and a request to the solicitor that he should inform the Home Office of the applicant's whereabouts, which he could have refused, rightly or wrongly, to confide.

It was of significance that a prompt response to the solicitor's letter setting out in plain terms what had happened and why, could costs and litigation. But what in terms was told or not told to the solicitor did not enable him to tell his client that there was nothing he could do for him and that he should return to prison and make his representations then.

Solicitor: Davies Blunden & Evans, Yateley.

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Jeremy Kingston

## NEW IN LONDON

**ABSURD PERSON SINGULAR:** Alan Ayckbourn's direct revival of his 1973 hit, set on three successive Christmas Eves; desperate, serious and funny, all at the same time. Whitehall Theatre, Whitehall SW1 (071-867 1119). Undergound: Charing Cross.

Previews from today, 8pm. Opens May 17, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm. Mats Thurs and Sat 2.30pm. £8-£16.

**DESIRE:** Zimbabwe in 1981. Andrei Serban directs all-black cast in new play by David Lan, adaptor of *Ghetto* for the National Theatre. Almeida, Almeida St, N1 (071-359 4404). Undergound: Highbury & Islington. Previews from Thursday, 8pm. Opens May 14, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat 8pm. Mats Sat 2.30pm. £8-£16.50. £12-£15.50. £15-£16.50. £18-£20. £22-£25. £28-£30. £32-£35. £38-£40. £42-£45. £48-£50. £52-£55. £58-£60. £62-£65. £68-£70. £72-£75. £78-£80. £82-£85. £88-£90. £92-£95. £98-£100. £102-£105. £108-£110. £112-£115. £118-£120. £122-£125. £128-£130. £132-£135. £138-£140. £142-£145. £148-£150. £152-£155. £158-£160. £162-£165. £168-£170. £172-£175. £178-£180. £182-£185. £188-£190. £192-£195. £198-£200. £202-£205. £208-£210. £212-£215. £218-£220. £222-£225. £228-£230. £232-£235. £238-£240. £242-£245. £248-£250. £252-£255. £258-£260. £262-£265. £268-£270. £272-£275. £278-£280. £282-£285. £288-£290. £292-£295. £298-£300. £302-£305. £308-£310. £312-£315. £318-£320. £322-£325. £328-£330. £332-£335. £338-£340. £342-£345. £348-£350. £352-£355. £358-£360. £362-£365. £368-£370. £372-£375. £378-£380. £382-£385. £388-£390. £392-£395. £398-£400. £402-£405. £408-£410. £412-£415. £418-£420. £422-£425. £428-£430. £432-£435. £438-£440. £442-£445. £448-£450. £452-£455. £458-£460. 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# Brussels set to parole Palestinian terrorist

From Michael Binyon, Brussels

THE governing board of Louvain prison near Brussels has recommended early parole for a Palestinian terrorist, serving a life sentence for a grenade attack on Jewish children, thus opening the way for a deal that could set free four Belgians held hostage in Beirut.

The prison board recommended that Nasser Saeed should be freed immediately, three months before he would qualify for parole after serving 10 years of a life sentence. His release is the main condition of the Fatah Revolutionary Council, a Libyan-backed group headed by Abu Nidal, which is holding the four Belgians.

Last month the Belgian Government sent a letter to Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, agreeing to sign trade agreements with Libya, and allow Nasser Saeed to go free after his release from prison. In return, the Libyan leader promised to use his influence to obtain the release of Mr Emmanuel Houtekins, his wife Constance and their two teenage children, who were kidnapped aboard a yacht in the Mediterranean in 1987.

The proposed early release of the Palestinian threatened to split the coalition Government of Mr Wilfried Martens, Mr Louis Tobback, the Interior Minister, took a tough line against any deal. Other ministers, however, have pressed for greater efforts to obtain the family's release. The release of terrorists has become a sensitive issue here and in Belgium relations with Britain following the expulsion to Ireland of Father Patrick Ryan, who faced extradition to Britain on terrorism charges.

Nasser Saeed was convicted of a grenade attack on an Antwerp synagogue, which

killed one child and wounded 15. He said on sentencing he had no regrets, and would resume guerrilla activities when released. The Louvain prison authorities say he has been a model prisoner.

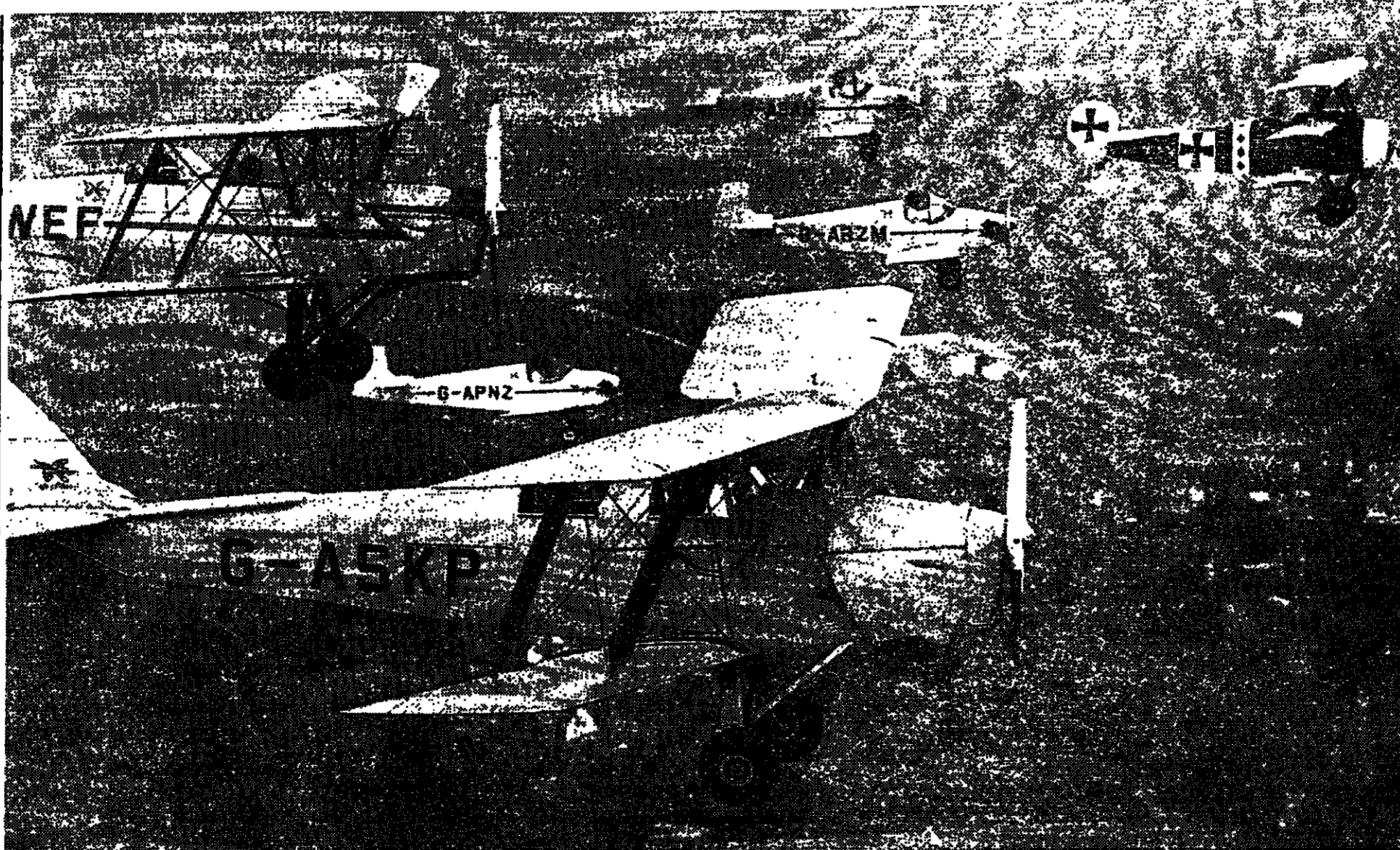
Their recommendation for early parole has still to be approved by the Antwerp prosecutor, but it is widely expected to lead to a swap. Mr Houtekins is the brother of another kidnap victim, seized off the same yacht with his French girlfriend. They were released last month after the French Government promised aid to Colonel Gaddafi, an action which brought criticism from Britain.

● **BEIRUT:** Kidnappers holding the Belgians said yesterday that the recommendation for parole was a positive step but not sufficient to secure freedom for their hostages. Mr Walid Khaled, spokesman in Beirut for the Fatah Revolutionary Council, said: "We hope this proposal is met with a positive response by the Belgian Government by immediately releasing Nasser Saeed as a first step to end the Belgian hostage problem."

The Belgian hostages — Emmanuel Houtekins, his wife Constance and their two teenage children — were aboard a yacht in the Mediterranean when they were seized in 1987.

Asked about the condition of the Belgian hostages, Khaled said: "They are in good health, they are given regular medical care and are provided with all their daily needs."

The FRC last month freed Houtekins' brother, Fernand, his French lover Jacqueline Valente and their two-year-old daughter Sophie in response to an appeal by Colonel Gaddafi. They were abducted from the same yacht in 1987. (Reuters)



A Fokker triplane leads a Tiger Moth (foreground), a Stampe and three Turbulents in proud formation once again, now that the world famous Tiger Club has fought off the threat of disbandment after 34 years (Helen Johnstone writes). The Tiger Club, named

after the famous Second World War biplane trainer, the De Havilland Tiger Moth, came under threat in March when the crew were asked to leave their hangar at Redhill airfield in Surrey after the lease was refused renewal. Faced with a legal bill of £43,000, and

disheartened after a failed attempt to reopen another airfield, they almost lost hope. However, over 60 club members, including many from other countries, got together, bought the vintage aircraft and found a suitable replacement at Headcorn Airfield in

Kent. The club now operates two Tiger Moths, including the oldest flying example in the world, and six other vintage aircraft. It has among its members the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands and the actor Christopher Reeve.

## Call to end leadership speculation

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

SIR Geoffrey Howe yesterday called for an end to speculation about Mrs Margaret Thatcher's continuing leadership of the Conservative Party.

In a rebuke to MPs who continue to raise doubts over the Prime Minister's future, Sir Geoffrey spoke of the "turmoil" of last year's leadership challenge and said the manner in which "the leadership issue gets stirred up in this way does no good at all".

Speaking on BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme, Sir Geoffrey, the deputy prime minister and leader of the Commons, said the majority of the Conservative parliamentary party was determined to set the issue to one side.

His remarks came as Mr Bryan Gould, the shadow environment secretary, said confusion and infighting in the Tory ranks over the leadership gave Labour a golden opportunity. Conceding that the

Labour Party still had work to do in getting its policies across, Mr Gould urged it to take every opportunity to set out its alternative stall.

As MPs return to Westminster today after the Bank holiday break, the implications of last week's local government election results, and the differing interpretations among Conservatives, seem certain to dominate entry later this week into the community charge debate.

Mr Michael Heseltine's re-

entry later this week into the community charge debate is causing intense interest among MPs. He is expected to call for important changes to the poll tax, though not for its abolition.

He is expected to propose ways in which average poll tax bills could be reduced by relating it more to people's ability to pay.

Diary, page 14  
Leading article, page 15

## Police chief calls for football veto

Continued from page 1

change the date. They refused to do this. Mr Arthur Sandford, chief executive of the Football League, rejected the allegation of arrogance or complacency. He said: "The Bournemouth police made a request last June when the fixtures were being put together. Viewed as of last June, this was not considered a more difficult

match than a number of others that were being played.

"It is right that the Bournemouth police came back to us about a fortnight before the match — when it became clear it was a promotion-relegation battle — and voiced their concern. Despite that, the decision was taken that this match, on the last day of the season, when you are going to get games involving promotion and relegation, should take place.

"The Chief Constable wrote to us on April 23 and we received the letter on April 25 in which he repeated, his concern, setting it out in some detail. Nevertheless, he did say in this letter he was well prepared to make the necessary arrangements to police this match.

"We are not complacent. We will be reviewing arrangements for matches particularly on the last day of the season." The Home Office reacted with caution to Mr Weight's call. A spokesman said, however, that it was sensible for football authorities to take account of police advice.

## Prince brings royal approval to free land of his ancestor

From Alan Hamilton, Budapest

THE Prince and Princess of Wales arrived in Budapest yesterday to begin a four-day official visit to Hungary, the first by any member of the Royal Family to a Warsaw Pact nation. The Prince thus comes to the land of his great great grandmother, Countess Rethy. She was an ancestor of Queen Mary, and a Hungarian aristocrat buried in what is now Rumanian Transylvania. The Prince recalled her last year during a speech condemning the late

President Ceausescu's programme of demolishing Romanian villages.

Unusually for a travelling show dedicated to precision timing, the BAe 146 aircraft of the Queen's Flight landed at Budapest 45 minutes late after it developed a minor electrical fault on take-off from Heathrow with the Princess on board, forcing it to make an unscheduled landing at Gatwick. It subsequently called at Ancona in Eastern Italy to collect the Prince, who had been opening an exhibition of his own paintings and sketches in Raphael's birthplace of

Urbino. The Royal couple were greeted by Dr Arpad Goncz, who emerged from obscurity in the wake of the first democratic elections since 1945 to be nominated as President only last Wednesday.

Small signs of Hungary's new found democracy abounded at the arrival ceremony. As the band played *God Bless Hungarians*, the old 19th-century national anthem, Mrs Zsuzsa Goncz, the President's wife, went openly. As Prince and Princess walked the red carpet to inspect the guard of honour, the band struck up a familiar Austro-

Hungarian relic, the *Radetzky March*.

If the Prince was looking closely, he would have seen that the Hungarian army uniforms, although still looking decidedly Russian, had lost the Red Star on their cap badge, now replaced by a small circle showing the national colours of red, white, and green.

Riding in his own Bentley brought over as an advertisement for British manufacturing, the Prince went to Heroes Square in Budapest, which commemorates national figures from long before

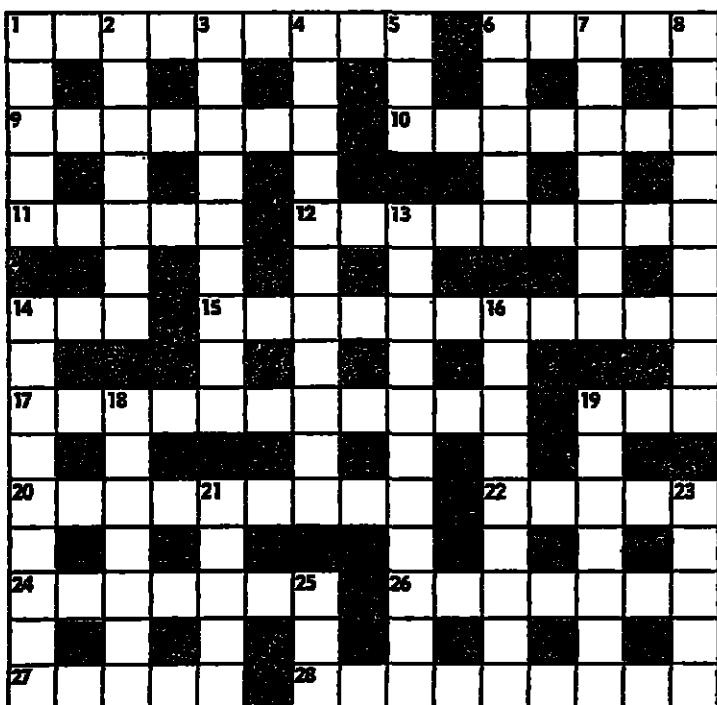
the communist interlude, and laid a wreath at the base of a 100-foot column surmounted by a statue of the Archangel Gabriel holding the Apostolic Cross.

Later, at the magnificently Gothic Hungarian Parliament building on the Danube, which has also had the huge Red Star removed from its dome, the Prince met Mr Miklos Nemeth, the caretaker prime minister and a member of the reforming communist regime which has been voted out of power and Dr Jozsef Antall, who is about to take over as head of a

coalition after the victory of the Hungarian Democratic Forum in last month's elections.

Both the Princess Royal and the Duke of Edinburgh have made private visits to Hungary in the past in connection with their equestrian and Mrs Thatcher visited the country in 1984. This first official visit, made in response to an invitation from the outgoing communists last year, was described by Mr John Burch, the British Ambassador in Budapest, as "a political visit with a clear political message."

### THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,288



#### ACROSS

- 1 Stroke or a comma, maybe (9).
- 2 Source of oils for painter following Constable, perhaps (5).
- 3 About to join expedition north? That's correct (7).
- 4 Wine stain, said to say, returns (7).
- 5 Relative beginners in navigation inducing extensive compass errors (5).
- 6 Capitals better advanced (9).
- 7 Retiring cast? (3).
- 8 Indicator of distance, but not as rigid rule (4-7).
- 9 Eastern runner in dark suit and light shoes (11).
- 10 Took turn by junction (3).
- 11 Worker in firm put in charge expresses amazement (9).
- 12 Lists and turns over (5).
- 13 Why, say, boy with French friend sent back pictures (7).

#### Solution to Puzzle No 18,287



#### DOWN

- 1 Foodstuff successfully brought home (5).
- 2 For example, Othello's attempt to trap Ancient (7).
- 3 Appealed to doctor in dire need (9).
- 4 A digital recording? (11).
- 5 Plant eaten by many Americans (3).
- 6 Pass round article read initially to provide notes (5).
- 7 Table helping served on gold (7).
- 8 Centaurs in centrally-heated accommodation (9).
- 9 Byzantine consented to retaining disastrous Act (11).
- 10 Extent of usefulness on board (5-4).
- 11 Able to imbibe in bar on best cocktail (9).
- 12 Duck or grouse — it needs plain cooking (7).
- 13 Pygmalion made her a celebration meal (7).
- 14 Army rising securing intelligence from emissary (5).
- 15 Second kiss of little substance (5).
- 16 Approval given to son supporting the old (3).

Concise Crossword, page 22

### WEATHER

Scotland and Northern Ireland will have a rather cloudy day with showers, some heavy and thundery. Northern England, Wales, The Midlands and the south-west will have a mixture of sunshine and showers, with the best of the sunshine in the west. The south-east will be sunny and generally dry. It will feel cooler everywhere. Outlook: sunny intervals but cloudy at times with scattered showers.

#### ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; si=sleet; sn=snow; l=low; c=cloud; r=rain					
Algeria	20 66	t	Majorca	21 70	s
Algeria	20 66	t	Malaga	19 65	s
Algeria	20 66	t	Marbella	19 65	s
Algeria	20 66	t	Morocco	19 65	s
Algeria	20 66	t	Spain	20 66	s
Algeria	20 66	t	Tunisia	20 66	s
Algeria	20 66	t	Yemen	20 66	s
Algeria	20 66	t	Zanzibar	20 66	s
Algeria	20 66	t	Zanzibar	20 66	s
Algeria	20 66	t	Zanzibar	20 66	s

#### AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
London	15.5	17	63	sunny			
London	15.5	17	63	sunny			
London	15.5	17	63	sunny			
London	15.5	17	63	sunny			
London	15.5	17	63	sunny			
London	15.5	17	63	sunny			
London	15.5	17	63	sunny			
London	15.5	17	63	sunny			

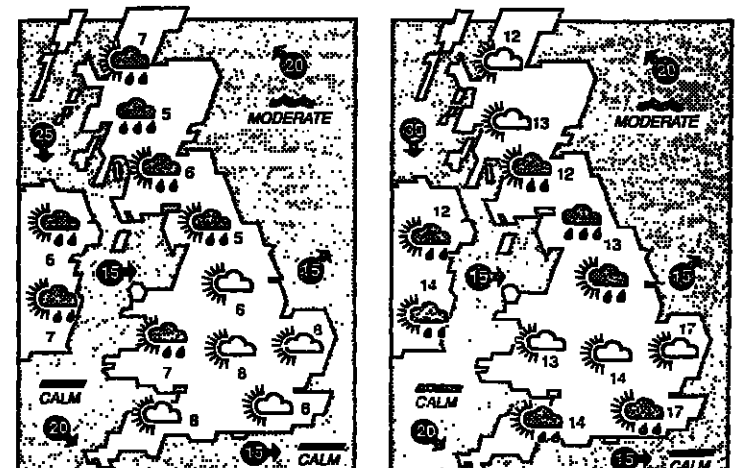
#### TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0898 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilt, Glouce, Avon, Som.	705
Berk, Bucks, Oxon	706
N W Scotland	707
N W Scotland & Isles	708
East Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincoln & Humberside	713
Wales & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Chwyd	715
N E England	716
Cumbria & Lake District	717
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin & Fife/Lotian & Borders	722
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland & Isles	725
Wales & Powys	726
Wales & Powys	727

Weathercall is charged at 5p for 8 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).

### AM PM



#### LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 5.35 pm to 5.19 am  
Bristol 5.44 pm to 5.30 am  
Manchester 5.51 pm to 5.20 am  
Preston 5.51 pm to 5.45 am

	Sun rises	Sun sets	Moon rises	Moon sets
London	5.35	8.35	5.21	7.45
Bristol	5.44	8.35	5.21	7.45
Manchester	5.51	8.35	5.21	7.45
Preston	5.51	8.35	5.21	7.45

#### YESTERDAY

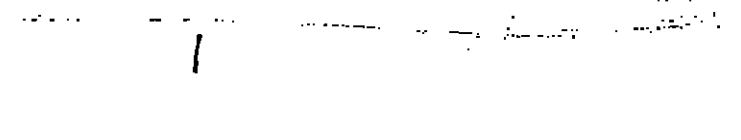
	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Belfast	11	52		11	52		11	52	
Birmingham	15	58		15	58		15	58	
Blackpool	11	52		11	52		11	52	
Bristol	14	57		14	57		14	57	
Cardiff	15	59		15	59		15	59	
Edinburgh	9	48		9	48		9	48	
Glasgow	10	50		10	50		10	50	

#### HIGH TIDES

	AM	HT	PM	HT	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	1.53	6.7	2.14	6.9	11.19	8.5	11.37	8.7
Alford	1.21	3.7	1.29	3.8	9.50	2.2	9.48	2.3
Amble	11.07	12.2	11.35	12.4	5.12	6.3	5.32	6.4
Cardiff	6.59	11.4	7.20	11.5	5.04	6.4	5.23	6.4
Devonport	6.43	5.1	6.05	5.2	5.37	3.6	5.08	3.6
Dover	11.14	6.0	11.28	6.2	11.21	5.6	11.36	5.9
Falmouth	5.13	4.9	5.35	5.0	11.05	4.1	11.19	4.3
Glasgow	12.52	4.3	12.52	4.3	6.47	1.8	7.27	1.9
Harwich	10.24	—	10.01	3.7	6.23	4.8	6.42	5.0
Hayhead	6.25	5.1	10.42	5.1	3.32	4.8	3.44	5.0
Hull	6.25	5.1	10.42	5.1	3.32	4.8	3.44	5.0
Ilfracombe	5.58	5.3	6.18	5.4	3.32	4.8	3.44	5.0
King's Lynn	6.36	5.8	6.42	6.0	3.32	4.8	3.44	5.0
Lamb	2.33	5.1	2.53	5.1	11.57	3.9	—	—

Tide in metres: 1m=2.280ft. Times are BST.

#### NOON TODAY



Information supplied by Meteorological Office

Inflat

Late

by

Worl

Bull

Drain

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# BUSINESS

TUESDAY MAY 8 1990

● BUSINESS AND FINANCE 25-30  
● FOCUS ON THE POST OFFICE 31-34  
● SPORT 39-46

Executive Editor  
David Brewerton

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar  
1.6610 (+0.0245)  
W German mark  
2.7774 (+0.0347)  
Exchange index  
87.6 (+0.9)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share  
1966.8 (+38.1)  
FT-SE 100  
2162.2 (+55.6)  
USM (Datastream)  
130.16 (-2.23)

## European firms 'back a single currency'

By Colin Narborough  
Economics Correspondent

A MAJORITY of Europe's leading companies want a single European currency rather than a common unit which would operate alongside national currencies.

This is understood to be one of the key findings in a survey conducted by Ernst & Young, the business services group, which has been made available to the European Commission ahead of publication later this month. It forms part of a detailed report produced jointly with the National Institute of Economic and Social Research.

The Commission has put the cost to business of foreign exchange transactions at ECU 15 billion. Companies believe a single currency would produce still greater savings and benefits.

A single currency would replace existing national currencies and remove the need to hedge against foreign exchange fluctuations.

Though the ECU has gained widespread acceptance in financial markets, it has limited commercial use.

Big businesses backing for a single currency contrasts sharply with the Government's resistance to the concept of a single currency.

Mr Malcolm Levitt, senior partner at Ernst & Young, anticipates that the study could have considerable impact on current thinking about EMU. It not only charts the views of leading companies, but puts forward a strategy and timetable for developing a single currency.

## STOCK MARKETS

New York: Dow Jones 2724.32 (+13.98)  
Tokyo: Nikkei Average 30856.27 (+782.63)  
Hong Kong: Hang Seng 2958.91 (+11.94)  
Amsterdam: CSE Tendency 117.4 (+0.6)  
Sydney: AD 1478.0 (+16.8)  
Frankfurt: DAX 1934.95 (+22.06)  
Brussels: General 6070.82 (-28.77)  
Paris: CAC 557.60 (+0.65)  
Zurich: S&K Gen 587.0 (+0.3)

London: FT-AI Share 1067.95 (+11.64)  
FT-500 1165.45 (+11.41)  
FT Gold Mines 215.6 (+0.11)  
FT Fixed Interest 75.99 (+1.09)  
FT Govt Secs 75.99 (+1.09)

## INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base 15%  
3-month interbank 15.1-15.5%  
3-month eligible bills 14.2-14.5%  
US Prime Rate 10%  
Federal Funds 8.75%  
3-month Treasury bills 7.79-7.78%  
30-year bonds 9.5-9.6%

## CURRENCIES

London: New York \$1.6610  
E: \$1.6610  
S: DM1.8555  
S: Sfr1.4315  
S: FFfr3.2161  
S: Yen253.104  
S: Yen158.05  
S: Index27.61  
ECU 50.740989 SDH 20.791358  
E: ECU1.349547 E: SDH1.263560

## GOLD

London Fixing: AM \$371.401 pm \$371.391  
Close \$371.00-371.50 (\$223.50)  
New York: COMEX \$371.70-372.20

## NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Jun) \$16.50/bbl  
Denotes Friday's close  
Denotes latest trading price

## TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Bank
Australia S	2.16	2.16
Austria S	20.45	19.15
Belgium F	60.20	56.30
Canada C	2.00	1.90
Denmark Kr	11.07	10.37
Finland Mk	5.71	5.11
France F	2.00	2.00
Germany Dm	2.00	2.00
Greece Dr	13.36	12.66
Hong Kong \$	1.07	1.07
India Rupee	27.50	26.50
Italy Lira	3.25	3.05
Netherlands Gld	2.00	2.00
Norway Kr	25.50	24.50
Portugal Esc	20.45	19.15
Spain Ptas	16.53	15.53
Sweden Kr	2.00	2.00
Switzerland F	2.00	2.00
Turkey Lira	1.74	1.64
USA \$	24.50	17.50
Yugoslavia Dnr		

## Inflation to fall early next year, says Major

From Rodney Lord  
Economics Editor, Washington

THE Chancellor, Mr John Major, told the International Monetary Fund that the process of reining back excessive demand and bringing down inflation in Britain was "well under way." Speaking to the interim committee of the Fund in Washington, he said there should be a distinct fall in inflation by the beginning of next year and that there might then be scope for lower interest rates.

The main item on the IMF's agenda is to agree the long-delayed increase in national quotas (subscriptions). The way forward has been opened by an agreement among the Group of Seven leading industrial countries to let West Germany and Japan share second place in the Fund, and Britain

and France fourth. Reviewing Britain's economic progress, Mr Major said that after the rapid economic expansion of recent years, it was necessary to have a period of slow growth. Bringing down inflation looked like taking longer and being more difficult than the Government had hoped.

The level of pay settlements, which was running at about 2 per cent above last year's rate, was disappointing and would tend to weaken job prospects. But in spite of last month's poor figures, the trade balance was improving.

Mr Major said the increase in inflation was remarkable for having occurred during a period of tight fiscal policy and generally tight monetary policy. Part of the explanation was the interaction of financial deregulation with several successive years

of growth in incomes. One of the priorities was to increase the level of savings worldwide. Britain had made a contribution with the measures in the Budget.

With the average rate of inflation among G7 countries at about 5 per cent, continued vigilance on prices was necessary. Capital calls from East Europe and elsewhere made it unwise to encourage lower savings in the countries in balance of payments surplus such as West Germany and Japan.

In a communiqué issued late on Sunday, the G7 indicated that the yen was still too low. While noting that the Japanese currency had stabilized since last month's G7 meeting in Paris, they "remained of the view that the present level may have undesirable consequences for the global adjustment process."

● The communiqué buoyed the yen in

Tokyo yesterday (writes Joe Joseph), but the Japanese currency benefited even more from the news on Friday that US employment grew more slowly than expected last month.

That indicated that the US economy is not as strong as many analysts had calculated, giving the US Federal Reserve little reason to tighten monetary policy and thereby strengthen the dollar against the yen.

Meanwhile, share prices in Tokyo climbed nearly 800 points yesterday, reinforcing the optimism among Japanese investors that the worst may be over for both the stock market and the shrinking yen.

The Nikkei index, which gained 483.81 points last Wednesday before the market closed for national holidays, jumped

another 782.63 points to 30,956.27. Analysts said confidence is seeping back into Tokyo dealing rooms and fears that the dollar would sail well past the 160-yen level are receding, lessening the threat of another painful rise in Japanese interest rates. They added that technical indicators also suggest the stock market is emerging from its slump.

Hiccups in this week's US Treasury auction could unsettle currency markets and choke off the recovery in Tokyo's stock market. But the dwindling prospect of a rise in US interest rates has revived Japanese investors' appetite for the auction.

Indications are that the Japanese will probably buy about 30 per cent of the \$30.5 billion US bond sale, more or less in line with their usual buying patterns.

## Late payment by Russia worries firms

By Wolfgang Münch, European Business Correspondent

LEADING Western companies are complaining that export trade with the Soviet Union is becoming increasingly disrupted by late and irregular payments.

A rapid deterioration since the end of the year is causing concern at ministerial level in West Germany, whose trade with Eastern Europe dwarfs that of other European countries.

There are fears that Soviet trade with the West, which has been growing rapidly, may stagnate this year because of administrative problems and a shortage of "hard" currency.

Until last autumn, the Soviet Union was regarded as an exemplary debtor and settled bills promptly. However, the situation began to deteriorate at the beginning of this year.

A spokesman for BASF, the West German chemical company whose trade with the Soviet Union amounted to DM1 billion last year, said: "Since the end of last year we have had problems with the Soviet Union. Since the beginning of January, these problems have worsened rapidly."

BASF imports crude oil from the USSR and sells back value-added chemicals.

Hoechst in Frankfurt, the world's largest chemical supplier to the Soviet Union, experiences similar difficulties. A spokesman said: "We look with some apprehension

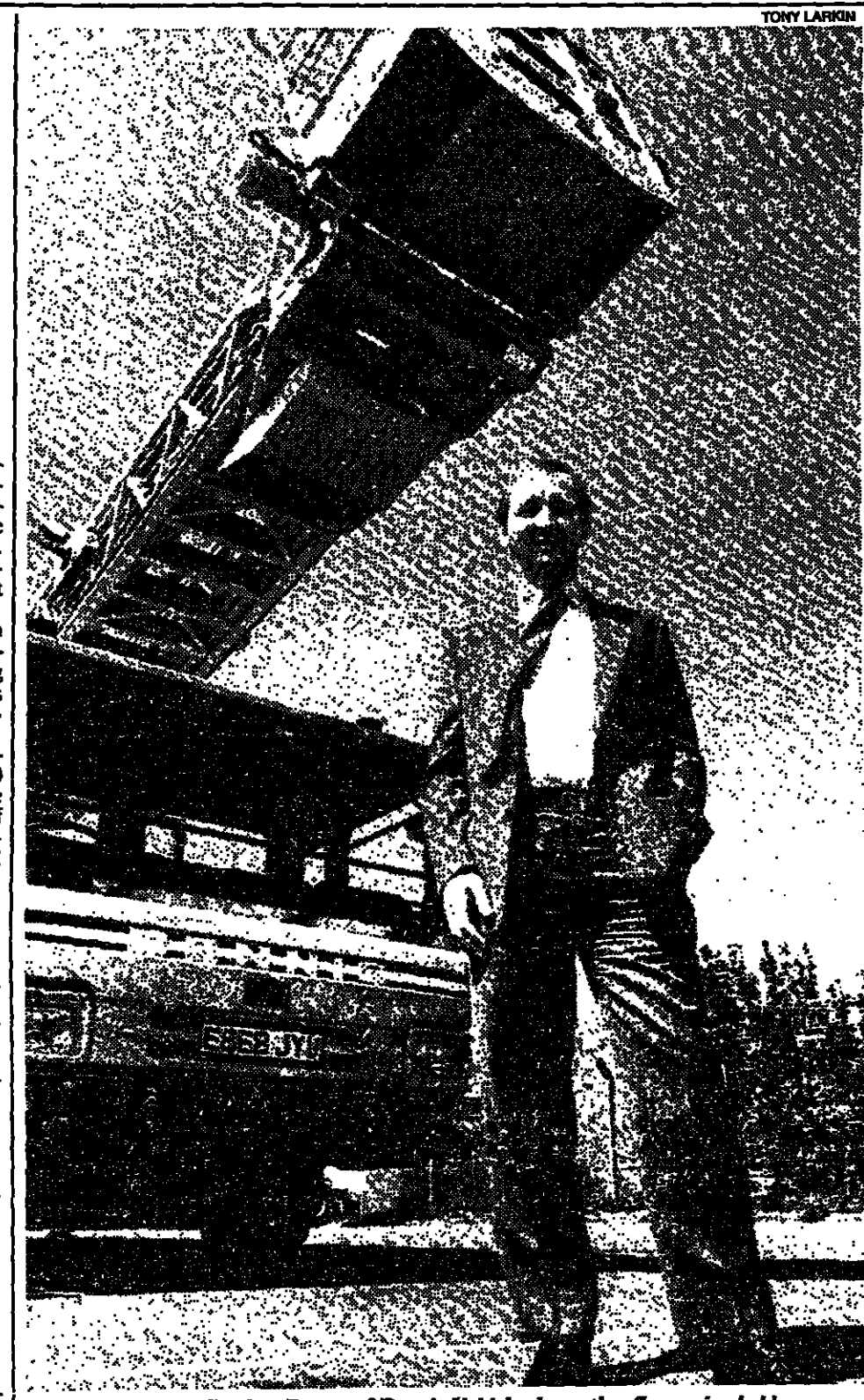
at the situation. During the last weeks we have noticed that payments come in rather irregularly and infrequently."

There is growing concern at the Bonn economics ministry over the situation. It is estimated that these problems could result in a stagnation of trade with the USSR this year, as West German companies become increasingly cautious. In previous years, German-Soviet trade increased by about 20 per cent annually.

West German companies have been hit particularly hard because of their large exposure to Soviet trade. In the UK, however, the Export Credits Guarantee Department (ECGD) and the Department of Trade and Industry said that there was no cause for alarm yet, although there were reports of similar incidents on a smaller scale.

The difference is partly explained by Britain's lacklustre trade efforts with the USSR. Anglo-Soviet trade amounted to £682 million last year, compared with West Germany's DM11.5 billion (£4.2 billion).

Although the large chemical companies have suffered more than most, payment delays are even more serious for small and medium-sized companies. One Hamburg trading company may soon be forced into liquidation because of delayed payment. Another small company is owed DM500,000 from Lithuania and Heine-



High hopes: Stephen Burton of Dennis Vehicles beneath a fire engine ladder

## Dennis is winning the drive for sales

By Derek Harris  
Industrial Editor

WHILE many commercial vehicle makers are facing tough times, with truck sales down by a quarter or more, Dennis Specialist Vehicles, of Guildford, Surrey, - best known for the fire engines it has been making since 1908 - is increasing production capacity by a half, and spending £10 million on a new factory.

Dennis Vehicles and two sister companies - one of them, Dennis Eagle, specializes in making refuse vehicles - came out of the then mini-conglomerate Hestair in a management buy-out in January last year. One of the three managers which led the buy-out - via the umbrella company Trinity Holdings - was Mr Stephen Burton, managing director of Dennis Vehicles.

Dennis Vehicles builds coaches and buses as well as fire engines, exporting a third of production. Dennis goes back to 1895 when it was producing bicycles.

Mr Burton said: "Where we have scored is in producing vehicles which are tailor-made for the needs of niche markets where the big volume producers have merely tried to adapt more general vehicles."

Dennis sells 350 fire engines a year and claims 16 per cent of the £108 million annual coach market. Last year it added a "new breed" of bus, the Dart midi-bus, carrying about 40 passengers, and Mr Burton reckons Dennis is tapping a market for about 600 such vehicles a year.

Trinity last time had an £80 million turnover and trading profits of £4 million. With vehicle volumes up, both figures are expected to drive further ahead this year.

## Bid-target Dixons predicts profits higher than forecast

By Martin Waller

DIXONS Group, the electrical retailer which is now back on full bid alert, has bolstered its defence with news that it will beat its earlier profit forecast for the year to April 28.

In January, shortly before the £568 million hostile offer from Kingsfisher lapsed after a reference to the Monopolies Commission, Dixons forecast at least £70 million pre-tax for the year, earnings per share of not less than 11p and a 5.6p dividend.

With the MMC report now with the Trade Secretary, Mr Nicholas Ridley, and a decision expected soon, the Dixons chairman has told its shareholders that it had outperformed that forecast despite the tough retail environment.

"Our strategy is working,"

said Mr Stanley Kalms. "We have already completed much of the restructuring required to reposition the UK retail business and increase its efficiency."

Opinion is split in the City on whether Kingsfisher, the combine that owns the Woolworth and Comet retail chains, will be allowed to return to the attack. But Dixons has moved to stiffen shareholders' resistance to a new and higher offer, promising an updated profits forecast if one emerges, while attacking Comet's record.

Dixons is expected to bring forward the formal announcement of its results, due in July, if the battle breaks out again. Analysts now expect pre-tax profits of approaching £78 million, just short of £78.4 million reported last time.

## Economic pessimism by directors

By Our City Staff

BRITAIN'S company directors are increasingly pessimistic about the state of the economy, although they remain confident about the prospects for their own businesses, according to a Business Opinion Survey from the Institute of Directors.

The IoD says 64 per cent of its directors responding to the survey are less optimistic about the economy than they were six months ago. Only 15 per cent are more optimistic.

However, 52 per cent of directors are more optimistic about their own companies' prospects. Almost half reported rising profits, and 79 per cent thought their companies were doing well.

"Despite doubts, the grassroots voice of business is positive," Mr Peter Morgan, director general of the IoD, said.

## Hart of the Midsummer matter

By Michael Tate, Deputy City Editor

EUROPEAN Leisure's controversial bid for Midsummer Leisure has taken another dramatic twist.

With only days to go before the final deadline, Midsummer's belated attempt to extricate itself from the merger conceived by its own chairman has been slammed by one of its former directors.

Mr Ron Hart, brought in by Mr Adam Page, the chairman of Midsummer, last August to run the group's breweries, but who resigned in March over what he describes as "bizarre management processes," is urging investors to accept the European offer. Midsummer reached agreement on merger terms last month, but pulled out when leisure share prices in general, and European's in particular, slid on the stock market. However, by then, the directors' 15.1 per cent holdings were irrevocably locked in.

Yesterday, Mr Hart claimed that Midsummer "has been blindly led by a mercurial chairman and other directors have been unable to stop the company's

decline. Midsummer has lost its way entirely. I believe the board is boxed in and will struggle now to maintain profits or make disposals," he said, adding that "the current climate for highly-gearred leisure companies makes European's offer additionally attractive."

Mr Hart, aged 50, was invited to join Midsummer by Mr Page, "a close friend of 12 or 13 years," after Brent Walker, who was managing director, moved to Hartlepool last summer. He claims to have been responsible for a "significant improvement" in the brewing division's trading. While he claimed to remain "on the best of terms with the Walkers," his relationship with Mr Page was "probably best described as 'non-existent' at present, although our wives, both German, remain very close." Of the bid, Mr Hart said he had a "duty to shareholders and former colleagues to make my own position absolutely clear."

However, Mr Paul Reece, who takes over as chief executive of Midsummer

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## Foreign buyers set sights on Target

By Neil Bennett  
Banking Correspondent

TARGET Life may become the latest asset manager to fall into Continental hands, after being put up for sale by the TSB Group last week.

Hill Samuel, the merchant bank handling Target's sale, says it has contacted about 20 potential buyers and some of them are thought to be from mainland Europe.

French and German banks have led the sudden rush from the Continent to buy a place in one of the City's most lucrative industries. Last week Crédit Commercial de France became the latest European bank to succeed by agreeing to buy a 25 per cent stake in Framlington, the fund manager owned by Throgmorton Trust, for £18.75 million, with an option to increase this to 51 per cent.

Previously, Gartmore was sold by British & Commonwealth to Banque Indosuez, while Société Générale acquired Touche Renmant for £50 million last year. Bank in Liechtenstein paid £91 million for GT Management, with funds of £3.3 billion.

Morgan Grenfell's asset management operation was a major reason for Deutsche Bank's £950 million bid last December, which created a combined fund of £3.3 billion. Asset management has always been an attractive business for bankers, due to the relatively regular, dependable fees it produces.

Apart from the large wholesale funds, investors tend to be conservative and are unwilling to switch companies. Profits from most other banking businesses can fluctuate widely.

At the same time, many industrial companies in Europe which previously managed their own pension funds are beginning to look at ways they can have the business off to professional managers. Banks such as Deutsche and Indosuez want to be able to sign up their corporate clients for the new service.

European bankers concede that London is the European centre for investment management, and are prepared to pay high prices for the expertise of City managers and the profit stream from their existing portfolios.

This round of initial acquisitions could develop into a series of rationalizations. CCF, for example, has noted the economies of scale in managing large funds and could be prepared for further acquisitions to increase the size of its funds.

## Little to inspire shareholders of Midsummer as decision day nears

MIDSUMMER Leisure investors have until Friday to decide whether to do as their board has done, and accept European Leisure's bid, or do as it says, and reject it.

The choice is not an inspiring one, and no less difficult for that.

Either shareholders accept, and swap their shares for European paper, whose business was the reason for their board's late change of mind, or they continue to back the debt-laden Midsummer, and its volatile board.

It should not have come as too much of a surprise when Midsummer chief Mr Adam Page withdrew his support for the merger. His company's history is littered with a succession of failures to get to the altar.

Talks with Lincolnshire brewer George Bateman were broken off, the company emerged with a substantial loss from its misguided attempt to acquire the Boddingtons brewing group and last year the company flirted with Leisure Investments, now in the hands of administrators.

More than 14.5 per cent had opted for change by the first closing date, swelling support for European, chaired by Michael Ward, to 34.33 per cent. And now a former director is urging acceptance.

Yet the market continues to bet on a failure. Midsummer's share price - at 120p a good 20p below the bid valuation - argues that a European victory will lead to a further fall in the European price.

It would after all see its gearing soar from nil to about 60 per cent overnight, although the talks that took place while the two groups were still friends identified some early disposals.

Alone, Midsummer faces the same problems, and shareholders would do well to remember that its directors forecast a gearing level of 60 per cent at the end of September, 1988 would fall in the ensuing year, only for it to top 100 per cent.

Henderson Crosthwaite analyst Paul Heath reckons Midsummer's balance sheet is not strong enough to reinvest for longer-term growth. He, and others, believe in the logic of a merger. Together they could make £23 million pre-tax next year, although earnings growth would be restricted by the share issue to perhaps 8 per cent at 9.4p, suggesting a 6.7 p/e multiple at the 63p share price. The sector average suggests a price of 85p.

On balance, Midsummer



Growing support: Michael Ward's European Leisure has 34.33% of Midsummer

holders should accept, but should question the wisdom of investing in this sector at all at present.

### Europa

RECENT results from Europa Minerals go to show that investors can reap rewards - even if only a penny - from junior mining companies this side of heaven.

Europa has declared a maiden dividend of 1p a share out of net earnings of 5.3p a share earned in the year ended January 31, and though the year's net attributable profit of £2.41 million was largely helped by £4.97 million from investment realizations, Europa's dividend policy is not going to be "go-stop."

The company, set up in 1984, largely by former RTZ

staff, made its market debut in February 1989, after a placing at 100p a share.

Europa's initial interests were British and Australian coal operations, plus stakes in gold-mining operations in North America.

Towards the end of 1989, Europa expanded through the acquisition of TR Energy, the oil and gas investment company, and also in 1989 acquired a 41.8 per cent stake in Burnine, the Australian gold mining company currently producing at the rate of 35,000 ounces of gold a year.

Mr David Hood, chairman, said his hope was that Europa would have a market capitalization of more than £150 million within three years.

He may find himself waiting for a good three years for that hope to be realized -

Europa was capitalized at £10.4 million in November, and after a midweek fall has a market capitalization of £35.4 million at 58p a share.

However, Europa at least remains ambitious, and, as Mr Hood said, if 1989 was the group's year for Australia, then 1990 should be the year of North America.

Europa is also on the look-out in continental Europe for mining opportunities, with Spain a favoured territory, and has gross cash holdings of £3.6 million at balance sheet date, plus the ability to call on more internal funds when the need arises.

Last year's net earnings of 5.3p put the shares on an historic rating of 11.3, which eases to 7.25 on this year's profit hopes.

Shareholders will receive

their penny from heaven on July 20. If things go well, they could be receiving at least two pennies a year from now.

### Channel

#### Express

LAST week was not a good one for small airlines. Davies & Newman announced a £13 million downturn into loss in 1989, due to problems with its Dan-Air subsidiary, two days after the collapse of German Wings, the German independent.

Coming after the closure of three British carriers since the summer - Paramount Airways, British Island Airways and Novair - it is scarcely surprising that shares in another small airline, Channel Express, ended the week on a 12-month 89p low.

Channel Express was set up in the 1970s to fly flower crops from the Channel Islands to mainland markets, but since Mr Philip Meeson, the chairman and principal shareholder, took over seven years ago, the company has branched out into flying parcels for customers such as the Post Office, Federal Express and UPS.

This concentration on specialized freight operations has insulated Channel Express from problems elsewhere in the sector.

Limited further growth is possible in the Channel Island flower business because of its dominating market share. But the overnight parcels market is growing 40 per cent a year.

In 1988-89, when Channel Express floated on the USM, Mr Meeson doubled the airline's fleet from four to eight Dart Herald aircraft to cope with expanding opportunities on the parcels side.

Even though these aircraft have 15 years' life left in them, they cost only £500,000 each and the company ended the year with net cash.

In November, Mr Meeson bought his first Lockheed Electra aircraft, which has three times the capacity of the Herald, but costs just \$2 million.

That suggests a degree of confidence, also reflected in brokers' forecasts of profits of £1.35 million and earnings per share of 7.7p for the year to March, 1990, due to be announced next month.

On a prospective p/e ratio of 12, the shares are attractive despite market nervousness about small companies in general and airlines in particular.

Edited by John Bell

## Why bond price rally may follow economic slump

The gilt market's present malaise is by no means unique. The first few months of 1990 contain all the hallmarks of a typical bear market.

Good news of any nature will do little more than halt the inexorable fall in prices.

Bad news, however slight, will drive the market to ever lower levels and at some stage all eventualities will be more than fully discounted.

Logically, ends in prices tend to follow the business cycle. The initial stages of a downturn will be accompanied by a faltering in the market's positive progress.

At this stage, inflation is normally rising and factors such as credit growth are expanding at a rapid pace.

Nevertheless, market participants maintain the belief that the economy's ills are only temporary. Thus bond prices remain "sticky," falling only modestly.

As the business cycle moves to a more depressed state, bearish sentiment intensifies. The trade deficit fails to respond quickly to the new circumstances. Inflation continues its stubbornly strong upward path and the problems with respect to the underlying pressures on costs become more evident.

Similarly, credit demand strengthens as the corporate sector adjusts to changing economic conditions. Naturally, the despondency of the market increases.

There are two examples of this pattern of behaviour in the last decade alone.

Both 1980-81 and 1985-86 bear a resemblance, being periods of economic downturn followed by an unambiguous period of bullishness, in which the steeper the fall in economic activity the stronger the subsequent rally in bond prices.

So when is sentiment likely to improve? We have seen that the initial stages of a growth downturn tend to be accompanied by the most disappointing performance of the market.

Only when investors are convinced the economy is falling sufficiently fast to ensure an improvement in factors such as the balance of payments and underlying inflationary pressures, can they be sure things will improve.

Even then there will be wariness, for several economic variables will still be sending confusing signals. Nevertheless, confidence will return, gradually. But it is

only when the growth rate begins to strengthen that the best performance is seen.

The rallies of 1982, 1987, and indeed 1977, conform very broadly to this pattern of events.

We are now in phase two, the most bearish time when virtually all news is considered adverse.

The question is, how long is it likely to continue? Few doubt that the rate of economic activity has slowed, but as yet there remains the possibility that the downturn will not be sufficient to ensure inflation pressures subside dramatically.

Phase three may, in these circumstances, not be far off, perhaps in the third quarter of this year, but this is a time when the market is still not sure the improvement is taking place.

Many economic variables are still presenting danger signals, underlying costs are rising, inflation remains stubbornly high and credit growth continues apace.

The lag involved in reporting the statistics means the market will not be convinced the corner has been turned until near the end of this year or perhaps early 1991.

It would appear that a long-awaited improvement in sentiment is likely to happen later rather than sooner, probably in the final stages of the calendar year.

The fall in prices thus far has been steep and, by past standards, this would suggest the subsequent rally will be strong. But, as in all cases in the past, no two periods are precisely the same.

There are reasons to believe that a market upturn in 1990-91 will be one of modest intensity. Unlike 1977 and 1982, when the public sector's financial position was improving dramatically, 1991 is likely to be the year when the authorities are obliged to re-enter the gilt-edged market to sell debt.

Add to this the likelihood that doubts about the Government's long-term existence will persist, even though the opinion polls will probably show its popularity improving, and it would be difficult to conclude that those expecting a performance from long-dated gilts on the lines of that seen in 1982 - up 54 per cent on the year - will be disappointed.

Chris Anthony  
UBS Phillips & Drew  
Research

## Big hopes for little companies

By Philip Pangalos

SCOTTISH Amicable Investment Managers, one of Britain's leading fund managers, said it intends to commit the bulk of its new cash to British investments in 1990, and has a particular interest in smaller companies.

Mr Graeme Knox, managing director of SAJM, said: "On fundamental considerations we prefer domestic markets - particularly equities and property, and we expect them to do better than their overseas equivalents in 1990."

Mr Knox added: "We particularly like smaller companies, which, having significantly underperformed the market during the last year, deserve a re-rating. While the going may be rough for some months ahead, with patchy profits performance in evidence, we believe that the worst of the corporate news will soon be



Knox: "right time to buy" over and that smaller companies will prove to be very rewarding. Now is the time to be buying them."

The company, which has more than £8 billion under management, is known for its counter-cyclical investment strategy.

Mr Knox said: "Some of the big companies are seeing quieter corporate activity. Mega-bids have resulted in some

large companies being on undesired multiples, whereas a lot of smaller companies are at a discount."

But smaller company specialists suggest that the sector may not begin to regain lost ground for some months.

Miss Michèle Delmain, at Barclays de Zoete Wedd, said small companies have been underperforming over the last year. "Outperformance will probably not come until the back end of this year, following the recent batch of poor results and profit warnings, which have affected shares across the board."

The key is to look for well-managed companies which will not only survive during the difficult times, but will be able to outperform competitors when the market turns, Miss Delmain said.

Mr Mark Paddon, an analyst on the smaller companies' team at County NatWest, said the perfor-

mance of the County NatWest Smaller Company Index (CSCI) is in line with the main market and the FTA All Share Index.

Mr Paddon said: "We do not expect to see smaller companies outperform until we see an upturn in the UK economy and an improvement in interest rates."

However, smaller companies were seen as a good investment over the longer term - over three to five years.

Mr Paddon emphasized that quality remains of prime importance. He said that there are some good businesses, with good management and strong balance sheets.

However, Mr Paddon said that none of County's 31 small company sectors showed a gain in capital value during April. He said the All Share fell by about 6.4 per cent in April, while the CSCI fell by about 6.9 per cent.

## Job figures pose Fed dilemma

### US NOTEBOOK

THE stunning employment numbers for April have thrown Federal Reserve policy back into the melting pot on the eve of the Federal Open Market Committee meeting on May 15.

The numbers are a remarkable vindication of the stand taken by Miss Martha Seger, the Fed governor who has been outspoken in opposition to the tightening move that has recently gathered such influential supporters as Mr Manuel Johnson, vice-chairman of the Fed, Mr Wayne Angell, Mr Edward W. Kelley Jr and Mr Robert T. Parry, president of the San Francisco Fed.

The total rise in payroll employment for March and April (including 78,000 census workers hired in April) was only 167,000. This compares with a rise of 734,000 in the previous two months.

To a degree, the decline in employment growth has justified a very rapid rise in the monetary base (banks' reserves plus currency) that has taken place since last November.

Despite the recent reports of higher durable goods orders and more optimistic surveys from the National Association

of Purchasing Managers, factory employment has continued to fall. Between last December and April, it has fallen another 89,000 to 19,400,000 - a level not seen since June 1988.

While the monthly payroll employment numbers fluctuate a lot, a confirmation of the weakening trend in the labour market came from two other sources.

The unemployment rate rose to 5.4 per cent in April, the highest rate since August 1988, and the latest Conference Board survey of consumer confidence published on Thursday last week stated: "Although the nation's unemployment rate has remained unchanged for some months at slightly more than 5 per cent, the number of new jobs in March dropped."

That decline, the Conference Board said, "probably contributed to much of the uneasiness found in the confidence survey." The April survey showed that consumer confidence fell, and also found a drop in plans by consumers to buy new cars and homes.

These survey results tie in

with the weakness in newspaper advertising of "help wanted" ads.

Newspaper advertising volume is exceedingly weak across all types of advertisements - retailing, national and classified. Magazine advertising volume is poor and many magazines will have to fold.

One of the weakest areas of newspaper advertising is classifieds - a grass roots pointer to what is happening. At the most basic level of the nation's business there is widespread weakness, indicated by the sharp decline in the two great areas of classified ads - retail and help wanted.

The March and April payroll employment numbers give some official confirmation to this view, which has been in the minority of Wall Street thinking to date.

As US Treasury bonds rallied on Friday, falling well below 9 per cent in yield, the intriguing possibility arose that the worldwide collapse of bonds could be ending. During April and early May there have been indications that the worst could be over for Jan-

nese and German bonds. UK gilts have looked healthier in recent days, and now US bonds have staged a powerful surge from the despair that dominated thinking as recently as a week ago.

Further support for the US Treasury bond market came from the news that average hourly earnings in April rose just three cents, most of which was accounted for by a mandated rise in the minimum wage.

For the dollar, the changed aspect of the US economy will not be so welcome. As 90-day T-Bill yields slid from Thursday's 8.13 per cent to below 8 per cent on Friday, the expectation of lower short-term interest rates was bound to weaken the dollar, which has, in any case, been struggling to hold above 158 yen and above 1.68 marks.

The collapse of gold on February 6 proved to be a good pointer to a changing US environment. This was reinforced by the sharp decline in the crude oil price, which also began in mid-February, since when it has tumbled from \$22 to under \$18.

Maxwell Newton  
New York

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**ECONOMIC VIEW**

## **Saving moves up the international agenda**

## ECONOMIC VIEW

## Carol Leonard



# STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

## Capitalization and change on week

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)  
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began April 30. Dealings end May 11. Settlement day May 14. Settlement day May 21.  
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are Friday's middle prices. Change, dividend, yield and P/E ratios are calculated on middle prices. (a) denotes Alpha Stocks.

### Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you the overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money staked. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Buend (a)	Pepper Print Adv	1.00
2	SD-Score	Electronics	1.00
3	Dawson	Textiles	1.00
4	Gleeson (M)	Building/Roads	1.00
5	Delta	Electronics	1.00
6	Smith W & A (a)	Drugs/Stores	1.00
7	Smith (U)	Electronics A-D	1.00
8	Sunshine (a)	Drugs/Stores	1.00
9	Cipica	Industries A-D	1.00
10	Cleymore	Property	1.00
11	Foster (U)	Textiles	1.00
12	Parrell Elect	Industries E-K	1.00
13	Environm Units	Transport	1.00
14	Silenthall	Industries S-Z	1.00
15	Alfred Long	Property	1.00
16	Maybom	Industries L-R	1.00
17	Turner	Building/Roads	1.00
18	TV Group	Industries S-Z	1.00
19	Broken Hill	Industries A-D	1.00
20	Menap Co	Textiles	1.00
21	Crystallite	Electronics	1.00
22	Granger	Industries E-K	1.00
23	GKN (a)	Building/Roads	1.00
24	Bailey (B) Const	Building/Roads	1.00
25	Brinsford	Industries A-D	1.00
26	RMC (a)	Building/Roads	1.00
27	Pico	Electronics	1.00
28	Howden	Industries E-K	1.00
29	Burton (a)	Drugs/Stores	1.00
30	Spencer & Buck	Building/Roads	1.00
31	South Eastern (a)	Property	1.00
32	Shibol	Industries S-Z	1.00
33	Sandbury (a)	Foods	1.00
34	ECT Group (a)	Industries E-K	1.00
35	IMI (a)	Industries A-D	1.00
36	De La Rue	Industries A-D	1.00
37	Moum Charlotte	Food/Stores	1.00
38	TV AM	Leisure	1.00
39	Black Ltd	Drugs/Stores	1.00
40	AB Elect	Electronics	1.00
41	Sunrom	Electronics	1.00
42	Uthmaniyah (a)	Oil/Gas	1.00
43	WPP	Pepper Print Adv	1.00
44	Proudford Alexander	Industries L-R	1.00

Please take into account any minus signs

#### Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8.00 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Week Total

There were no valid claims for Saturday's £4,000 weekly Portfolio Platinum prize. The money will be added to Saturday's prize, making £8,000 in total.

#### BRITISH FUNDS

Stock	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

SHORTS (Under Five Years)	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

UNDATED	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

INDEX-LINKED	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

BANKS, DISCOUNT HP	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

ELECTRICIANS	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

INDUSTRIALS A-D	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

INDUSTRIALS E-K	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

INDUSTRIALS L-R	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

FOODS	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

FINANCE, LAND	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

FINANCIAL TRUSTS	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

BREWERIES	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

BUILDING, ROADS	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

DRAPERY, STORES	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

HOTELS, CATERERS	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

INDUSTRIALS S-Z	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

INSURANCE	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

LEISURE	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

MINING	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

OILS, GAS	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

### Portfolio PLATINUM

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#### OVERSEAS TRADERS

Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

#### PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

#### PROPERTY

Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

#### SHOES, LEATHER

Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

#### TEXTILES

Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

#### TOBACCO

Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

#### TRANSPORT

Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

#### WATER

Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00



## Blue chips lead an early fall in Dow

● **Sydney** — The All-Ordinaries index rose 16.8 points to 1,478.0. (Reuter)

[illegible]

**Natural break: Bob Clarke, who takes over at UB**

The group was bound to be seen as vulnerable to takeover

# A new era for UB as Clarke emerges from the shadows

**"There is everything to play for," he said.**

The first priority has been to build up business in continental Europe. UB has not been able to do that in one leap. It was frustrated by domestic competition constraints from taking the unexpected opportunity of buying the European operations

He will start by bringing 80 top UB executives from round the world to a meeting in a month's time at which they will learn that, though Sir Hector has retired, vision remains at UB.

## Graham Searjeant

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## Brandon looks for the right tools to carve a niche in hire business



volvement in plant hire. "They are basically plant hire with a small number of tools," says Mr Nathan. "We are in tool hire and catering and furniture hire — two quite separate divisions — we are not in plant hire at all."

Another fundamental difference between Brandon Hire and Venture Plant is that Brandon does not have any in-

A forecast dividend of 4.4p means the shares will yield 9.2 per cent.

## Schroder's team tips two

## Schroder's team tips two

Castle Communications' latest interims showed pre-tax profits up 53 per cent. It also unveiled a two-for-one underwritten rights issue at 400p. Schroder forecasts earnings per share in the year to June up by 20 per cent to 34.2p. "In 1991 this progress will be maintained and the company will realize the full benefits of the rights issue. We are therefore forecasting that pre-tax margins will widen slightly, resulting in an increase of 45 per cent in pre-tax profits to \$4.6 million."

Operating margins rose from 5.8 to 10.2 per cent and the Schroders team forecasts earnings per share of 30.2p for 1990 and pre-tax profits of £2.68 million. It concludes that "the high level of recurring revenues and progressive acceptance of the new product offerings will ensure revenues will grow by 12 per cent in 1990 despite dull economic conditions".

## Carol Leonard

[illegible]

## INVESTMENT TRUSTS

[illegible]

## THIRD MARKET

Quotation £	Company	First offer Pence	Change on last Friday	Gross per share	Div Yld %	P/E
895.000	ASB Barnett	28	-10	1.3	4.8	5.6
783.000	Amstron	2004	-	1	-	-
1,897.000	Armstrongs Inc	33	-	-	-	-
1,788.000	Asa Farmers	28	-	-	-	-
2,844.000	Ascom	200	-	-	-	-
1,775.000	Capson Oil	71 1/2	-2 1/2	1.3	0.4	4.1
1,775.000	Chester Art	71 1/2	-2 1/2	1.3	0.6	-
645.000	Chromes Int	12	-	-	-	-
4,427.000	Citibank Storage	215	-	-	-	-
1,120.000	Crown Jew	80	-	-	-	15.4
2,937.000	Eastings	40	-3	-	-	-
7,741.000	Edinburgh	20	-	-	-	-
3,813.000	Electric	55	-	1.3	1.4	14.9
5,535.000	Emerton	12 1/2	-	-	-	-
3,950.000	Ensign	12	-3	-	-	-
598.000	KP (P&G)	13	-	2.7	3.8	12.1
3,262.000	LOW	19	-	3.3	17.4	3.2
11.38e London	Lat	19	-	3.3	17.4	3.2
4,408.000	Intersarc	60	-4	-	-	12.8
1,195.000	Intertrust	19	-	-	-	12.8
1,583.000	UPL	42	-	-	-	7.9
5,822.000	Unit Group	172	-	6.7	3.9	16.1
11.48e Virgin	Mega Gp	6	-5	-	-	-

## GOLD

**BULLION:**

Open: \$371.25-371.75 Close: \$371.00-371.50

High: \$372.00-372.50 Low: \$370.50-371.00

**Per ounce**

**COINS:**

Britannia: \$379.00-384.00 (£222.25-231.25)

Krugerrand: \$370.00-384.00 (£222.75-234.75)

Melb. Florin: \$378.00-384.00 (£228.25-241.25)

American Eagle: \$379.00-384.00 (£228.25-231.25)

New Sovereign: \$377.25-384.25 (£252.50-33.50)

Old Sovereigns: \$377.25-384.25 (£252.50-33.50)

Premium: \$484.75 (£292.00)

Premium: \$120.60 (£72.00)

1977-1978 £100 (£55)

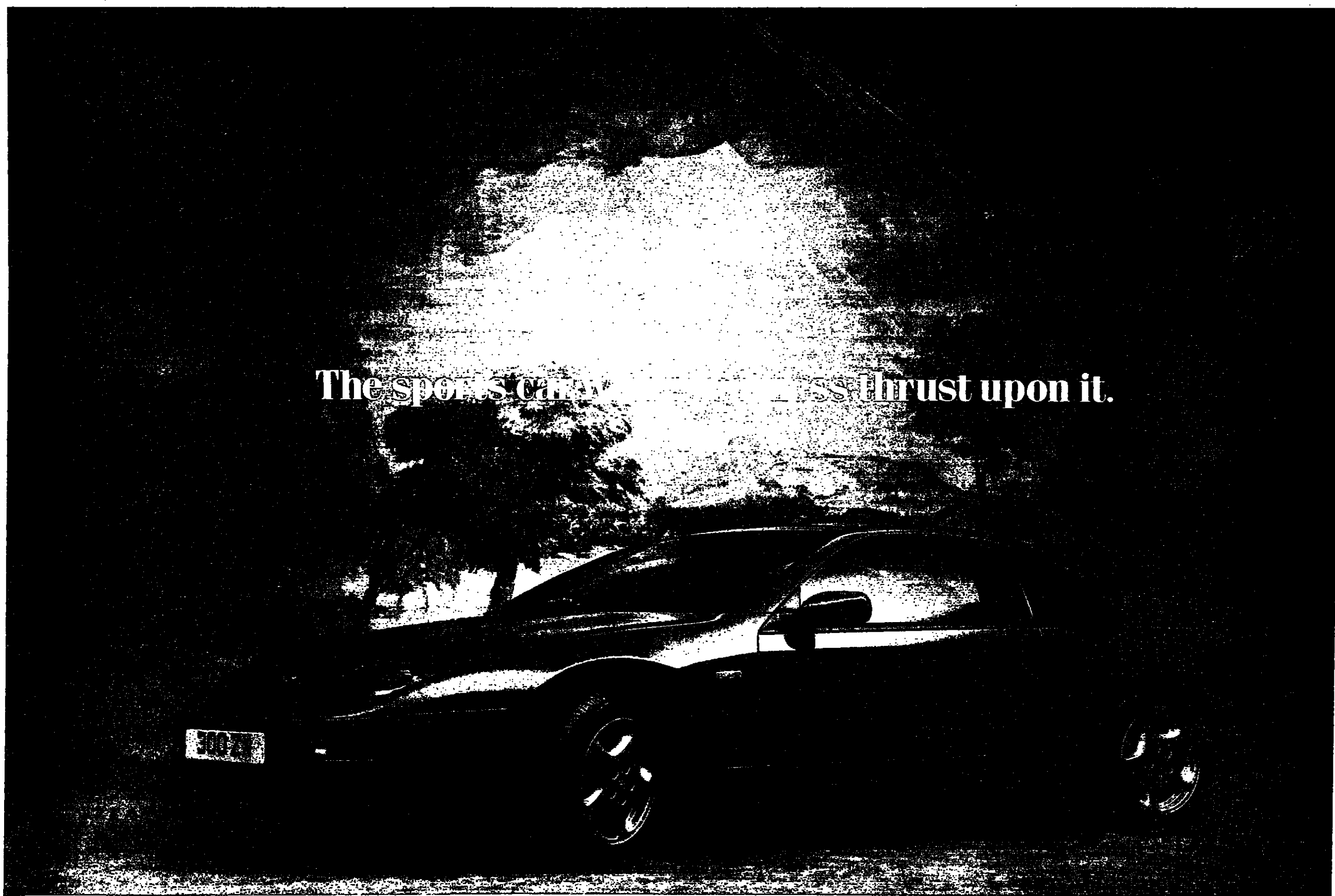
**Per coin (Ex VAT)**

**GOLD**

**BULLION:** Per ounce  
Open: \$371.25-371.75 Close: \$371.00-371.50

**COINS:** **Per coin (Ex VAT)**

Britannia: \$379.00-384.00 (€228.25-231.25)  
 Kruggerand: \$370.00-373.00 (€222.75-224.75)  
 Mapleleaf (11oz): \$379.00-384.00 (€228.25-231.25)  
 American Eagles: \$379.00-384.00 (€228.25-231.25)  
 New Sovereigns: \$87.25-89.25 (€52.50-53.50)  
 Old Sovereigns: \$87.25-89.25 (€52.50-53.50)  
 Platinum: \$484.75 (€292.00)  
 Palladium: \$120.60 (€72.65)  
 Silver: \$5.05-5.07 (€3.040-3.055)



**The sports car was thrust upon it.**

The 300ZX, a unique marriage of distinctive styling, dynamic performance, and state-of-the-art technology. For once the motoring press are united in their praise: when it comes to

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NISSAN U.K. LIMITED, WORTHING, SUSSEX



## **The Royal Mail is answering its critics by providing better service, Anthony Cox reports, as part of its plan to develop new markets**

There has been an investment in the art of listening. According to Mr Cockburn, the Royal Mail has tried to change its "culture" from "an operationally led take-it-or-leave-it style to one where we say to the customer, 'What do you want?' and the operator is servant to the market, not the

petition from private enterprise. Yet it remains aware of its social responsibilities, pointing out that no one, not even a privatizing government, has been able to find an alternative to the Royal Mail that would continue to meet the total postal needs of the national community.

To send a letter from any part of the UK to any other at a standard price, regardless of distance, is the cornerstone of the Post Office's traditional



It is a service that slays by

made a big investment in marketing to generate new business. Mr Cockburn says: "We estimate that, huge as we are, we have only about a 15 per cent share of the communications market, which is the fastest-growing part of the economy." There is undoubtedly more to come.

**Every day 54 million letters are handled in Britain. In 10 years that figure is likely to double**

When Rowland Hill introduced the penny post, the mail coach was the most modern mail transport system. Hill, the man credited with developing the idea of a uniform post, argued that cheaper costs and improved transport would lift the Post Office's business. Today, the Royal Mail uses transport ranging from mopeds to articulated vehicles. It has one of the largest vehicle fleets in the world—33,000—and uses more than 4,000 trains every day.

Every year, the Royal Mail's well-developed air network carries more than a billion first-class letters to distant parts of the UK. About 30

The Royal Mail operation at the East Midlands airport begins at 10.30pm, when the first of 13 flights from Scotland, Belfast, East Anglia, the south-west and the south-east start arriving. The aircraft are emptied and quickly reloaded, most of them flying out again

Computers are now being used to find the fastest way to deliver the mail. The Computer Assisted Delivery revision program reduces the time it takes to map out the quickest and most effective routes for individual postal rounds. It complements the recently completed DARRT program, which seeks out routes for the nation's mail.

"Internationally, the Royal Mail is virtually alone in the world with a postal service that delivers all the way to the customer's individual letterbox, whether in a high-rise flat or a remote farm cottage."

In the Britain of the 1830s, reformers in the air. Every body was at it, and alongside the movement for parliamentary reform, which had its apogee in the great Reform Bill of 1832, there was an equally strong current for fiscal reform.

By the time Hill's uniform pamphlet on the uniform post appeared in 1837, a parliamentary commission was already at work studying an overhaul of the mails, and the Post Office had received petitions containing a total of more than 200,000 signatures, from the Lord Mayor of London to chambers of commerce throughout the land, demanding the very things that Hill proposed.

cheaper service late business and quickly increase. Post Office revenue. He was, to a large extent, wrong. Postal business did indeed grow, but not nearly as quickly as he had envisaged. He was convinced that despite much cheaper mails, the huge savings in labour costs by having people stick on their stamps themselves at a standard charge would ensure that revenue did not fall. He later revised his estimates, saying it would take only five years to recover from any initial losses.



remorse, was guaranteed.

A good word was always out. The post-idea of cheques, flat-rate postal service was too good to fade away, and eventually the rest of the world began to take notice.

Brazil in 1843 was the first country to follow Britain's example. Within 40 years, 150 countries had adopted the British system.

Hill, however, became an increasingly dictatorial, obsessive, and unpopolar, passive, and unpopular, obsessive.

Anthony Trollope, father of the pillar box, said of him: "I was always an anti-Hillite, believing him to be entirely unfit to manage men or to arrange labour."

Hill's brother once remarked: "When you go to heaven, I foresee that you will stand at the door to inquire of St

The image displays nine first-day covers (FDCs) from the United States Postal Service, arranged in a 3x3 grid. Each cover features a different postage stamp and a circular postmark. The covers are labeled with their respective titles:

- Top Left: *First Day Cover*
- Top Middle: *Busy all day Cover*
- Top Right: *SPORT*
- Middle Left: *First Day Cover*
- Middle Middle: *First Day Cover*
- Middle Right: *Away on holiday Cover*
- Bottom Left: *Forgot it was yesterday Cover*
- Bottom Middle: *First Day Cover*
- Bottom Right: *First Day Cover*

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(Mr./Mrs/Ms) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me details of other stamp items you offer  
I shall allow up to 30 days for  
delivery of our order. The  
prices, which include VAT at  
the current rate, are subject to  
any change with the value of  
the stamp; them selves. All  
orders are subject to  
availability.

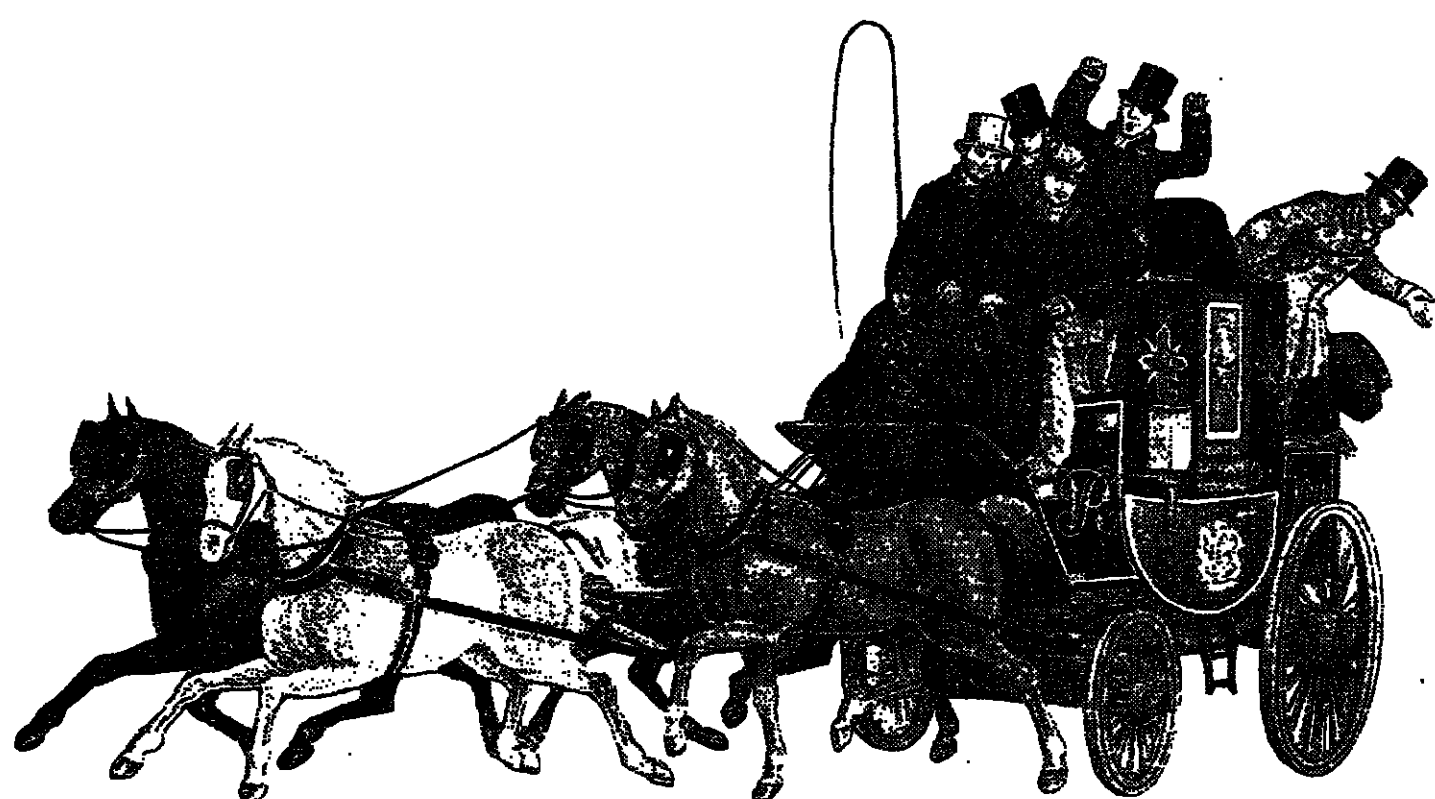
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taken into account). The first class stamp is one of the cheapest in Europe.

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And Sir Rowland Hill's invention – the pre-paid adhesive label – has been adopted by every nation on earth.

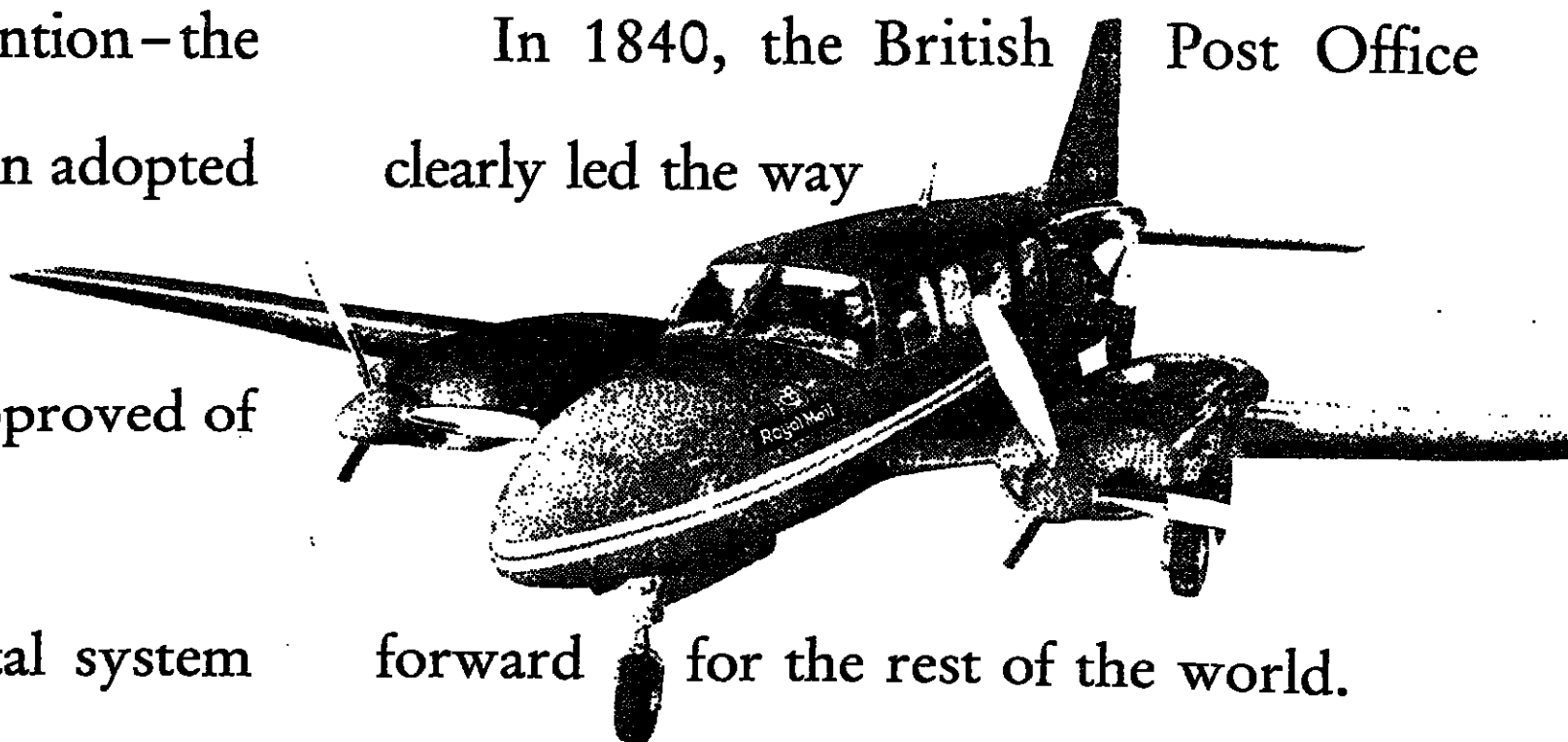
Would Sir Rowland have approved of our progress over the years?

Today, he'd see a UK postal system handling record numbers of letters – more in one busy day than in the whole of 1840.

He'd see a stamp that's fallen in cost by 75% since 1840 (when wage changes are

And he'd see technology put to such good use that other postal administrations clamour to copy it and buy it.

In 1840, the British Post Office clearly led the way



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FIRST  
IN THE  
WORLD

The Post Office



# Adhering to the Rowland Hill principle

Reports of dramatic changes in the postal service are greatly exaggerated, according to Bill Cockburn, managing director of the Royal Mail. He claims that discussions are under way that could lead to the merging of first-class and second-class mail, the introduction of a business users' "premium" service and an end to early-morning residential deliveries.

"What we are celebrating this year — the 150th anniversary of the Rowland Hill principle of the uniform price and the uniform service — is valued throughout the country. Nobody is suggesting we move even an inch away from that," Mr Cockburn says.

Clearly, however, as a large organization, which has grown by more than 40 per cent in a decade — and looking forward, we could have growth of the same magnitude — we have to constantly look at how we are organized, our service structure and how we staff the business.

This is becoming particularly important to the Post Office, the country's second largest employer, in the face of the approaching demographic trough.

"We have to ask, 'What does the customer need as he enters the 1990s?' Those needs could arise because of other options. I think we are always looking at other options. The time has come to start discussing more openly with our customers what sort of postal service they need."

According to Mr Cockburn, the Royal Mail has sought to change from a "take-it-or-leave-it" operation to one which is market-focused, where we say to the customer, "What do you want?", and the operator is servant to the market, not the other way round."

But what the customer wants may be difficult or impossible to deliver. The delivery structure is under serious review. Most of the Royal Mail's 70,000-80,000 delivery staff have to start work at an early hour, and people are becoming increasingly resistant to working unsocial hours.

"If our customers signal to us that it is not so important to them to have their mail early — in other words, if it could start later and be

**'We have been making a lot of positive investments'**

spread longer — that could have quite a dramatic effect on employment conditions, particularly in the case of part-time and female employees, who would be more willing to work for us if they did not have to start at 5.30am," Mr Cockburn says.

Delivery performance has come in for heavy criticism. However, outside London and the south-east there is a more positive view of the



mail service, particularly in areas where there is a more stable workforce. The Royal Mail's answer to this problem has been to invest more money in the problem areas, provoking confrontation with the unions.

"We have been making a lot of positive investments, particularly by putting pay supplements into London and the south-east."

"This is what the postal strike was all about. The unions found it difficult to accept differentials, but we have invested £50 million in payments focused on blackspot areas."

"We are beginning to see a reduction in staff turnover and a consequent improvement in service, in some areas very markedly."

"Taking performance as a whole, we agreed with our users' council that we would target for the biggest-ever improvement in service for a single year in 1989, and we actually beat our target. That's part of an ongoing drive, backed up by big investments in

The Royal Mail remains committed to its founding philosophy of 'uniform price and uniform service'. However, staff demands and market realities are forcing it to re-evaluate many services, Bill Cockburn (left) tells Anthony Cox

transport, air services, automation and people. There have been some legitimate criticisms in some parts of the country, but we are addressing them. Of course, you never hear anything about the vast majority of letters that get through on time," Mr Cockburn says.

In volume terms, Royal Mail deliveries are 87 per cent business and 13 per cent personal. However, while the bulk of revenue comes from business and official mail, only 500,000 of the country's 24 million addresses belong to the business community, so most of the costs of delivery are incurred in servicing private addresses.

Mr Cockburn is confident that "we will always have postmen and postwomen. Although we are investing in the latest technology to reduce the labour intensity of mail-processing, the vast army of delivery postmen and postwomen is the most valuable part of our service."

The Royal Mail has a statutory monopoly covering addressed

mail priced below £1. "There is a great illusion about the monopoly. We do not have a monopoly of communication, and we estimate that, huge as we are, we only have about a 15 per cent share of the communications market," Mr Cockburn says, raising the issue of privatization.

"Our position is that the monopoly is genuinely a privilege, not a right. We are confident that we could be successful in a competitive environment. But what the Government has to consider is what the end of the monopoly would mean to the community."

"It would not make any sense to allow people to just come in and cream off the most profitable routes. Any fool could make a lot of money by being selective. It is significant that this Government is clearly very keen to see increased competition, but it has not yet found a model which would protect the Rowland Hill principle."

To put competition into perspective, Mr Cockburn says that the Royal Mail handles the same amount of mail in one day at Christmas as all the private courier companies together handle in a year.

"The likes of TNT, which might like to have entry into the juicy small bits, could not actually provide benefit to the community as a whole."

"It is not our job to stop competition, but it is the Government's job to get the framework right as a whole," Mr Cockburn says.

The arrival of the single European market is seen as a great opportunity for the Royal Mail. "We think there is great potential

**'We do not get one penny of subsidy. Our formula works'**

for us with 1992. Our prices are the lowest in Europe, our business is the most successful commercially, and the service we give is in the top rank of European performance."

"We envisage competition with our European counterparts, not in the sense that we would have pillar boxes in West Germany, but that a lot of businesses will have a choice as to where they locate their

mailing centres. Britain as the mailing centre for Europe — that's what we see post-1992," he says.

The Royal Mail is bullish about its prospects. "Direct mail marketing is one interesting and exciting prospect. I believe that the industry is only in the foothills of development here. The number of direct mail pieces per head of population is about 26 a year. In America the figure is 10 times greater, and in Europe it is double the UK average."

In the 1960s people were predicting that this business would go into decline and we would lose out to telecommunications and other more glamorous means of communication — and that did in fact happen for a period. We did not grow in the Seventies.

"Since the beginning of the 1980s, when we pursued vigorous productivity improvements and lowered our prices in real terms, our customers have returned to us. My growth last year was 9 per cent. Over the next five years we are going to invest more than £1.1 million to take the strain of future growth."

"The advance of the fax, for example, will clearly erode traditional markets, but I think that other markets will arise. Take all the privatization issues — they have proven a tremendous boost for Royal Mail, with all those extra items to handle. Wonderful. We love it! And people should not forget that we do not get a penny of subsidy. Our formula works."

## Letters destined underground

Brian Quinn, head of Mail Rail, the Post Office's private underground railway, has a curious memento of one of his predecessors (*Malcolm Brown writes*). A glass display case on his office wall holds a pair of white silk gloves, presented to the first head of the underground system in January 1929 by his staff.

Mr Quinn says the railway opened for business in 1927, but it was plagued by technical hitches. It was not until January 1929 that the system ran through a full 24 hours without a single delay.

The significance of the white silk, apparently, was that once the problems had been solved the head man no longer needed to get up to his elbows in grease. "The boss could stay away and not get dirty," Mr Quinn says.

After the initial problems the system seems to have run like a dream. Mr Quinn says downtime is tiny. The underground railway, the only one of its type in the world, shunts 50,000 bags of mail a day between Paddington and Whitechapel, serving the two mainline stations of Paddington and Liverpool Street and six large sorting offices.

The idea for an underground system for mail goes back to well before the First World War. A committee set up by the Postmaster-General in 1909 to advise on the moving of mails by pneumatic tubes or electric railway came out in favour of the latter in 1911, and tunnelling



Down below: Brian Quinn, at Mount Pleasant, heads the Post Office underground railway system

started three years later. It continued throughout the war until labour and materials problems finally brought the project to a halt in 1917. During the war the tunnels were used by the Tate Gallery and the National Portrait Gallery as a safe haven for their art treasures.

The system was finally completed and opened for service in 1927, and has been in use ever since. The tiny trains are driven by remote control and are overseen from an operations centre at the Mount Pleasant sorting office, near Holborn. They run at speeds of up to 40mph, three times the average speed of road traffic in

central London. Every one of the 27A-long cars in the system can carry up to 60 bags of mail or 24 bags of parcels.

Trains run at a rate of 12 every hour in each direction, their number increasing until a train runs every four minutes at peak periods. At the busiest times, the Post Office is able to get a train from Liverpool Street to Paddington — a vital mail transport link — in just 13 minutes.

Mail Rail must be one of the most intensively used underground railways in the world. It operates 22 hours a day, the other two hours being used for maintenance work.

The whole system is run with only 260 staff, including engineers in the maintenance depot, a splendid old engineering workshop in the middle of Mount Pleasant. The system appears to be highly efficient, but Mr Quinn admits there have been occasional problems.

One of the worst occurred when a large sack of mail blocked a chute at the King Edward Building. Within 20 minutes, as more and more bags were sent down the chute, the blockage turned into a gigantic jam.

In the end, the fire brigade had to be brought in to dislodge many tons of bags.

## Postal clickety-clack

The sorters who staff the Post Office's Travelling Post Offices (TPOs), the 35 mobile sorting offices that run on overnight trains, are a hardy lot. They have to be (*Malcolm Brown writes*). Not only do they work nights under often adverse conditions and spend large parts of every week away from their families, but, just occasionally, they also have to cope with emergencies.

One of the oddest happened a few years ago just outside Reading when, according to Alex Obradovic, head of Travelling Post Offices, a package broke open and out popped a minor plague of locusts. It rather upset the staff, by all accounts. "It didn't do the locusts much good either," Mr Obradovic says.

More than half of all mail still travels by train. Every day 3,000 trains are used. There are about 300 "specials" — all-mail trains that carry most of the overnight first-class mail — and 35 of these are TPOs.

The TPOs go back more than 150 years to 1838, when the Post Office tried an experiment with a converted horse-box. The box was pressed into service as a rudimentary sorting office on the Birmingham-to-Warrington section of the Grand Junction Railway. The idea caught on, and by mid-century a small network had been built up.

The heyday of the TPO was undoubtedly the 1930s. The ser-



People of the night: sorters at work on a Travelling Post Office

vice was immortalized then by John Grierson's classic documentary film, *Night Mail*, the sound-track of which was a now famous W.H. Auden poem, whose rhythms evoke the clickety-clack of the old steam train on its northward journey to Aberdeen.

This is the night mail crossing the border. Bringing the cheque and the postal order.

Letters for the rich, letters for the poor. The shop at the corner and the girl next door.

Between them, the TPOs handle about 425 million first-class letters and packets a year. All are hand-

sorted. They run along the main routes, but the mail sorted is normally from one small town and is destined for another. Mail from large centres is rarely sorted. It is largely a service for "small-town Britain", Mr Obradovic says.

He says the sorters who make up most of the 650 TPO staff are resilient types and long stayers — sometimes giving that section service for up to 30 years.

For the last-minute customers, first-class letters still can be posted on all TPOs, which have post-boxes on the exterior of the coaches. Some of the big railway stations still have special late-posting boxes on the platforms.

The simple coding system provides the Post Office with the ideal means of coping with future demands on its service, Malcolm Brown writes

## Secrets of the mysterious post-code revealed

MANY people have no idea what the post-code system is about. They believe it is another piece of bureaucratic nonsense dreamt up by the Post Office to make a customer's life more difficult.

In fact, the post-code is a remarkably sophisticated "homeing device". It tells the Post Office for which town, street and segment of the street a letter is destined. Add the number of the house and mail could, in theory, be delivered to its destination without normal addressing. Police, for example, use house number plus post-code to security stamp bicycles — the resulting code number provides an accurate identification tag.

The post-code was devised so that the Post Office could machine-sort mail.

In the simplest and most common system, a human operator reads the written post-code as the letter passes on a moving conveyor and types it into his coding keyboard. That translates the post-code into a sequence of blue phosphor dots, which can then be machine-read as the letter passes a sophisticated light detector. The

dot code is unscrambled and the letter sent off to the appropriate sorting box.

In old-fashioned sorting, the address on an envelope might be read up to half a dozen times by human sorters before the letter reached its destination. Post-coding allows machines to be used in all intermediate stages.

Now the whole process has been taken a step further. The operators who key in the post-code manually are being replaced by optical scanners that use machine-vision techniques to read the written post-code on the envelope.

The OCR (optical character recognition) machines are speeding up operations enormously. A manual operator can key in 2,000 post-codes an hour. OCR machines can process 35,000. The Post Office has 19 OCR machines in operation, and expects to have another 29 working within the next two years.

Alex Beardmore, the engineer-

in-chief who heads the Post Office's research centre in Swindon, Wiltshire, says the system works very well with the type of material produced by bulk mailers. "The big mailing houses, such as *Reader's Digest*, Access and Visa, produce vast quantities of nicely typed mail that can go straight on to our optical character reading machine to be sorted," he says.

Meanwhile, Mr Beardmore's scientists and engineers are trying to upgrade the system. One of the ultimate aims, Mr Beardmore says, is to get machines to read hand-written mail.

There is an enormous difference between asking a machine to recognize characters machine-printed by a typewriter, addressograph machine or some other

mechanical device, and asking it to recognize the free-flowing and very individualistic characters that every one of us produces in his or her own handwriting.

But some advances may still be possible, particularly if the public can be persuaded to hand-print the post-code. The difficulties of machine-reading hand-written or even hand-printed characters are

many and various. At the simplest level, although a machine-printed character will normally be of a fairly standard size, the characters that humans put on the page may vary enormously from the very small to the very large.

The OCR has to "normalize" the size of the characters before it can even begin to search its memory for matching patterns.

"There are ways forward," Mr Beardmore says. "The first step will almost certainly be to get boxes printed that constrain the size of the characters and separate them physically."

People are already used to doing this sort of thing on computer forms, so it should be possible to adapt the idea for envelopes, though the Post Office would first have to persuade envelope-makers of the merits of the system.

He says Post Office technology has very fine constraints within which to work. One of the oddest but most important factors en-

gineers and scientists developing new technology must consider is that Post Office equipment must be gentle.

"If you are in a manufacturing process and something goes wrong with the machinery, then, if, say, you are cartoning up sugar, you may waste a few wrappers, you may waste a bit of sugar," Mr Beardmore says. "But you just throw those away and start again. If any of our machinery goes wrong in that way, then you are in danger of destroying somebody's mail. That is irreplaceable. So it has got to be highly reliable and gentle in its handling capabilities."

Technology is becoming more important for Post Office operations, Mr Beardmore says. The volume of mail is growing at 6 or 7 per cent a year.

"At the rate we are going we shall be handling something like 80 million letters a day by the end of the century. If we go on at that rate of growth we shall need something like another 100,000 postmen on the streets. The country is going to be rather stretched to provide that sort of manpower."



It's all happening: mail here is being sorted manually. Soon, most letters will be machine-sorted



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CONGRATULATIONS ON THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PENNY BLACK FROM SP TYRES UK LTD



# The popular pastime that sticks

Stamp collecting, the world's most widespread hobby, is well served by yearly British specials

Special issues of British stamps were rare before the 1960s. The first appeared in 1924, for the British Empire Exhibition, followed by others for the 1948 Olympic Games, the 1951 Festival of Britain and the 1957 World Scout Jubilee Jamboree.

In 1960 that changed when the Royal Mail started issuing special stamps in line with the well-established practice in other countries. In doing so, it quietly buried the dictat of George V, a keen philatelist, that the Continental habit of regularly issuing "specials" should not be copied.

In 1964, under the Postmaster-Generalship of Tony Benn, the first commemorative stamps appeared, featuring people other than the reigning monarch, and widened the scope for special issues. Today, followers of philately, which is the world's most popular hobby, are well served by the Royal Mail, which puts out seven or eight special issues every year.

The number is limited to eight because stamp sales and production patterns require gaps between issues.

The Royal Mail also wishes to avoid the bad habit of some countries of producing specials like confetti.

"It is quite clear that our customers would dislike it if

we issued more. It's not a market for 'milking'. We aim for the very highest quality we can get, and our efforts have been rewarded over the years with design awards," says the general manager of Royal Mail Stamps, Keith Fisher, who is in charge of 250 employees directly engaged in the philately business.

"Every year we get more than 1,000 letters suggesting subjects for special stamps. The final decision rests with the Post Office Board, which considers recommendations from the Royal Mail."

Specials come off sale after a fortnight at post offices and after a year at the Royal Mail's philatelic outlets. The stamps then pass into the hands of the stamp dealers.

"Christmas stamps are the most popular, and printing has to start in July," Mr Fisher says. "For the second-class Christmas stamps — although I should say the stamp for the second-class rate because we don't have any second-class stamps — the print run is 6,000 million. Other specials have much smaller print runs." The

main sales outlet for specials and other philatelic products such as first-day covers and presentation packs is the Royal Mail's Philatelic Bureau in Edinburgh, which has about 200,000 regular customers world-wide.

West German philatelists are the bureau's best overseas customers.

"Our philatelic sales doubled in the Eighties and are still increasing at a healthy rate. Philately makes a profit for the Royal Mail and, of course, an important contribution to keeping down the cost of postage. I see the philately business going on for ever," Mr Fisher says.

The bureau also runs the Stamp Bag Club, which encourages philately among the young, and is the biggest children's club in the country, with nearly 70,000 members.

British stamps are at present on show at Stamp World 90, an international exhibition at Alexandra Palace, north London. The penny black's 150th birthday fell on May 6,

and all the historic material involved in the stamp's design is displayed there together for the first time.

About 75,000 visitors are expected to attend the exhibition, which also includes part of the Queen's private collection. The exhibition, which closes next Sunday, is open daily from 10am to 6pm (5pm on the last day). Admission for the final days is £3 for adults and £2 for children under 16.

Special exhibitions on the work of Rowland Hill, who introduced the uniform penny post, and the penny black stamp are also running throughout this anniversary year at the National Postal Museum in King Edward Street, London EC1, where the full history of British postage stamps and the work of the designers and craftsmen producing them can be explored any weekday between 9.30am and 4.30pm.

The museum contains a unique collection of 19th-century postage stamps, held in trust for the nation. The history of the Royal Mail itself can be traced in the Search Room of the Post Office Archives, Freeing House, 23 Glasshill Street, London SE1, between 9am and 4.15pm any weekday.

Anthony Cox



Serious stuff: devotees at the Stanley Gibbons shop

# The long and rocky road to postal reform

Opening the 150th anniversary exhibition at the National Postal Museum, Dr John Marriott, keeper of the Royal Philatelic Collection, spoke of increasing dissatisfaction with postal affairs, and with the high rates of postage being charged.

To the relief of his audience, he was not voicing complaints about the present-day Royal Mail, but was outlining the events that led to the postal reform of 1840.

Rowland Hill's proposal for a flat-rate postage charge throughout the country was written in 1837 when sending a letter was complicated, uncertain and expensive.

In London alone there were three separate postal systems. The Twopenny Post Office handled mail within London and the immediate area around it. The Inland Office, an ancestor of the Inland Revenue, had general charge of the postal system for the rest of the country and the Foreign Office dealt with mail to and from overseas. Every system had its own staff, methods and charges.

Contrary to popular belief, Hill did not invent the penny post. He proposed that it be made universal throughout the land, irrespective of the distance a letter had to travel.

By the mid-1830s, the two-penny mail was only one of many cheap local posts established in many British towns. There were 356 penny posts in England, 81 in Scotland and 295 in Ireland. The difficulty was in sending a letter from one town to another.

Postage was charged according to the distance and the number of sheets in a letter. The lowest rate for a single-sheet letter was four old pence for up to 15 miles, rising to a shilling for 300 miles, and an extra penny for every 100 miles beyond that. A two-sheet letter doubled those rates, and a three-sheet epic trebled them.

Thus, a single-page letter from London to Brighton cost eight pence, while a four-page letter from London to Glasgow should have cost a princely four shillings and four pence. But, in fact, it cost much less as charges varied, often for no apparent reason. A single-page letter that travelled the 400 miles between London and Glasgow, in fact, cost only

one and a half pence, yet a letter from Glasgow to Greenock, only 20 miles away, cost six pence.

It was hardly surprising that one of the first agitators for postal reform, pre-dating Hill by several years, was Robert Wallace, MP for Greenock.

Although, in theory, the postage could be paid by the sender in both the local and the general mails, it rarely was. Every item of mail had to be stamped "paid" or "unpaid" by the postal authority. The charge was calculated and written on every unpaid letter, an expensive, laborious and time-consuming exercise. Postage was almost always paid by the recipient, making the postman a considerably less welcome figure on the doorstep than he is today.

And it made delivery slow. A letter carrier in London, it was calculated, could deliver on average only 70 letters in an hour and a half as he had to collect his money at every call, rather like a modern one-man-bus driver.

However, the delivery of letters to the address on the envelope, while common in the local town posts, rarely applied to the general mails. Letters from afar were delivered no further than the Post Office in the relevant town. There were no roadside pillar boxes in which to place mail. Letters had to be taken to the local Post Office or "receiving house", although in London and some large provincial towns, bellmen would walk the streets offering to collect mail, ringing a bell to attract attention.

Because of the sometimes high cost of the official mails, a considerable business grew up in contraband mails in defiance of the Postmaster-General's supposed monopoly, and letters were moved by stagecoach or private carriers.

Postage was regarded as a source of taxation rather than payment for a service, and a main plank in Hill's campaign was that a low and standard postal charge would increase tax revenue, both by stimulating demand and by rendering obsolete the need for contraband mail.

On both counts he was, in the end, proved right.

Alan Hamilton



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Continued from page 21

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With 42 partners and over 200 staff, our client is one of the largest and most prominent law firms in New Zealand. Developed from partnerships originating in the 1840's, it boasts a thriving and modern practice equally divided between its principal offices in Auckland and Wellington. A vacancy exists in the former for a senior banking lawyer.

The banking group acts for leading financial institutions both at home and overseas - commitment and a reputation for exemplary service having produced a growing client-list, which the new appointment will help to strengthen. Candidates will need to be capable of attaining partnership within a short period. They must have had several years' broad experience of banking law, perhaps including corporate funding, project financing, syndicated loans, bond issues, commercial leasing and aspects of loans administration.

This is a rare opportunity for a lawyer wishing to re-locate (with expenses paid) to a completely fresh and invigorating environment, one where the quality of personal and family life is seldom surpassed. Equally, the appointee will enjoy excellent work and be well rewarded financially.

For further information please contact Philip Boynton, LL.B., LL.M., on 071-405 6852 or write to him at Reuter Simkin Ltd., Recruitment Consultants, 5 Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane, London EC4A 1DY.

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## National and International Recruitment for Lawyers by Lawyers

Lipson Lloyd-Jones is firmly established at the forefront of legal recruitment in London and nationwide. All of our Consultants are qualified Lawyers each of whom have practised either within private practice or industry and in some cases, both.

We have always observed the strictest standards of professional conduct, and consider it axiomatic that CV's should only be sent to clients at our candidates' direction. Moreover, we believe it is essential that our clients only receive details of appropriately qualified candidates.

## INDUSTRY / COMMERCE

**INTERNATIONAL LEASING COMPANY - c. £30,000 + Car + Benefits**  
► Barrister/Solicitor ► 1-3 PQE ► Acquisitions, general commercial.  
► Travel

**MAJOR INTERNATIONAL BANK - City c. £40,000 + Benefits**  
► Solicitor/Barrister ► 2-5 PQE ► Options, cross-border transactions  
with international aspects.

**VENTURE CAPITAL COMPANY - London to £60,000 + Car + Benefits**  
► City experience ► MBO's, MBI's, general corporate finance work  
► High profile department

We have now established an associate office in New York and we invite applications from experienced Lawyers with strong academic backgrounds and sound professional experience who wish to work in the USA.

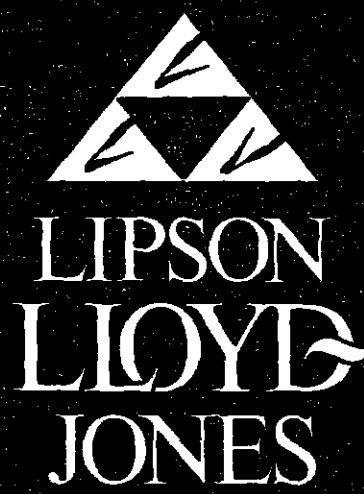
If you would like to discuss the opportunities set out below and the many other positions registered with us, or are interested in working in the USA, contact Simon Lipson, Michael Silver or Jane Messie, all Solicitors or Lucy Boyd, a Barrister.

## PRIVATE PRACTICE

**EMPLOYMENT - Central London**  
► Major practices ► Contentious/non-contentious ► 2 PQE - Partnership level

**COMPANY/COMMERCIAL - International City Practice**  
► M & A, Yellow/Blue Book experience ► 1-5 PQE ► City/financial sector background

**NEWLY QUALIFIED - London and Major Provincial Practices**  
► September qualifiers ► Company/commercial, litigation, property ► Our Consultants were trained in private practices in the City, West End and Manchester

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Legal Recruitment

## PRIVATE PRACTICE

**SEPTEMBER QUALIFIERS TO £25,000**  
We are currently acting for large and small practices in London and the Home Counties who are seeking newly qualified solicitors to undertake asset finance, insurance litigation and general company/commercial work.

**COMPANY/COMMERCIAL TO £60,000**  
This international law firm seeks two corporate solicitors with between one and five years' experience for its London office. The work will include mergers, acquisitions and Yellow Book matters with international aspects.

**COMMERCIAL LITIGATION TO £35,000**  
A substantial City firm requires a commercial litigator with a minimum of one year's relevant experience to undertake a varied workload including general contract, shipping and other commercial litigation.

The above are only a small selection from the positions we are currently instructed to fill. If you would like to discuss any of these or any other aspect of your career, please telephone

Laurence Simons or Shona McDougall

071-831 3270

(071-485 1345 evenings/weekends)

Or write to: Laurence Simons Associates, 33 John's Mews, London WC1N 2NS.

We are qualified lawyers with extensive experience in legal recruitment and all approaches are treated in strict confidence.

## COMMERCE/INDUSTRY

**CAPITAL MARKETS TO £45,000**  
The City office of this Japanese bank requires a solicitor or barrister to become sole legal adviser involved in interest rate and currency swaps, options, futures and other capital market products.

**COMMERCIAL TO £35,000**  
This national organisation based in the City requires a solicitor to join its sizeable legal department involved in drafting, negotiating and advising on a broad range of contracts, joint ventures, general corporate and commercial work.

**PROPERTY TO £30,000**  
This leading international company with its head office in WC2 requires a commercial conveyancing legal executive to join a team of 6 people involved in a broad range of work including landlord and tenant matters.



## COMMERCIAL LAWYER

Competitive Salary + Car

+ Other Financial Sector Benefits

The Halifax is very proud of its position as the largest building society in the world. We have achieved this through a commitment to quality and innovation in the financial services market.

Based in Halifax, our legal department provides a comprehensive legal service to all levels of management and the Board and has been in existence for the last six years.

We are looking for an additional solicitor to join the department qualified for 3-5 years with experience in the following areas of commercial lending:

- negotiating and drafting mortgage documentation
- advising on commercial loans to companies, housing associations, developers and joint ventures
- advising on LIBOR, fixed rate, deferred payment and similar funding arrangements.

In addition to an attractive salary there are a range of benefits which include:

- subsidised mortgage
- car
- profit related bonus scheme and performance related pay
- contributory pension scheme
- life assurance
- free BUPA membership
- relocation assistance

Please apply in writing marked "Private" with a full CV to: Chris Jewett, Group Solicitor

Halifax Building Society, Halifax, West Yorkshire HX1 2RG

## ESSEX/ EAST ANGLIA

Col/Commercial Litigation  
CO Property  
Maritime  
Criminal

We offer a confidential and informed service in the placement of professional staff throughout the region.

Contact Lynda Roskoff, Law Professionals,  
6-10 Headgate, Colchester CO3 3BY.  
Tel: (0206) 755688 or  
(0206) 753707 (evenings).

DEBT COLLECTION  
Central London £20,000

A young enthusiastic Legal Executive with solid Debt Collection experience, ideally on a computerised system is sought to join this dynamic and rapidly expanding commercial practice. Candidates will enjoy excellent working conditions, receive full support and first class benefits.

PENSIONS LAWYER  
North West England £30,000

Well-respected practice offering really high quality work is seeking an experienced pension lawyer 1-4 years PQE. Working as part of a team in their corporate department you will deal with all aspects of pensions work, including transactional, advisory and planning and you will be encouraged to develop new business and build on the firm's already excellent reputation in this area of law. Prospects and benefits excellent.

COMMERCIAL CONVEYANCING  
Exeter to £30,000

Leading West Country practice seeks an experienced conveyancer to join their busy commercial property department. Excellent career potential handling a wide range of top quality commercial work is offered by this up-market firm. Working conditions and benefits are excellent.

GENERAL PRACTICE  
Hants to £26,000

An experienced solicitor 3-8 years PQE is sought to run a branch office of this large South Coast firm. Primarily the workload will be conveyancing but candidates must have the ability and confidence to develop the general litigation and family law case load. Excellent prospects and benefits package offered.

Call or write with full CV to: Paul Stapanian or Andrew Vivian on

071 236 4402

95 Chancery Lane, LONDON EC4A 3HE

ASA  
LAW

COMMERCIAL Property  
solicitors for Manchester practice, one newly qualified, the other 2 to 3 years exp. Contact Law Personnel 071 2-22 1281 124 hrs.

LITIGATION Legal Executive  
with substantial experience in personal injury work is required by leading City practice. Salary £25,000. Contact Law Personnel 0711 242 1281 (ans. all times)

Commercial  
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Partner

REQUIRED BY EXPANDING MEDIUM  
SIZED FIRM (LONDON WC2) TO  
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ADVANTAGE. REMUNERATION  
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ALTERNATIVELY, TELEPHONE IN  
CONFIDENCE 071-495 5801

Senior Legal  
Policy  
Adviser

The CBI is looking for a Senior Legal Policy Adviser to handle legal issues affecting business. The Company and Commercial Law Group deals with a wide range of legal policy questions - company and commercial law, intellectual property, competition law, consumer law, and City regulation - many of them with an EC dimension.

The successful candidate should be qualified as a solicitor, barrister, or company secretary, with a minimum of three years' post-qualification experience. Good oral and drafting skills are required allied to a versatility to approach new problems with fresh thinking. The Adviser will be called on to deal with senior businessmen, officials (in Whitehall and Brussels), and members of the profession.

Salary circa £25,000 plus other benefits.

Please reply, enclosing a comprehensive cv and stating present salary to the Personnel Department,  
Confederation of British Industry, Centre Point,  
103 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1DU.

## VANUATU

## Solicitor General

Vanuatu is a group of islands in the South West Pacific Ocean, with a population of 150,000.

As senior assistant to the Attorney General, your duties will include advising all Government Ministries Departments and statutory corporations as well as preparing and advising on legislation for Parliament.

Training junior legal staff, the negotiation and drafting of contracts and treaties and the representation of the Government in legal proceedings all fall within your wide-ranging responsibilities.

## QUALIFICATIONS

Candidates should be British Citizens with a Law Degree and at least 5 years' practical experience including some gained at Senior State Attorney level. Relevant experience in Civil Litigation, General Advising and Contracts is necessary as is a familiarity with legislative drafting. A working knowledge of French and developing country experience will be a distinct advantage.

## TERMS OF APPOINTMENT

As part of the British Government's aid programme you will be on contract to the Government of Vanuatu for 2 years with a local taxable salary and a tax free supplement payable in sterling. The local salary and supplement will give a total income, after tax, of approximately £25,300 p.a. Additional benefits will normally include variable tax-free overseas allowances, currently £4,218 p.a. (single) and up to £7,728 p.a. (married), children's education allowances, free passages and annual fare-paid leave.

Closing date for receipt of applications is 5 June 1990. For further details and application form, please write to: Appointments Officer, Ref No AH364/CP/TT, Abercrombie House, Eaglesham Road, East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 8EA, or telephone (03552) 41199 ext 3534.

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## ENFIELD MAGISTRATES' COURT

## TRAINEE COURT CLERK VACANCY

Grade CC Pts. 1-5 (£12,882 - £14,724)

A vacancy has arisen for a Trainee Court Clerk to join the staff of the Enfield Magistrates' Court which sits at the Court House, Lordship Lane, Tottenham, London, N17.

This post will suit a newly qualified solicitor or barrister who wishes to pursue a career in the Magisterial Service, but who is without practical experience of Magistrates' Courts.

The intention is to provide the new lawyer entrant with a basic instruction in the administration of a Magistrates' Court coupled with in-court experience of the role of a Court Clerk with the objective of a full capability to act in such a capacity.

Further details and Forms of application for appointment may be obtained by telephoning Mrs. McClory on 081-808 5411 (Ext 228).

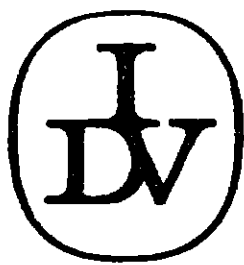
The closing date for receipt of applications is 21st May.



071-481 4481

## LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

071-481 4481

Trade-Mark  
Specialist

Central London

International Distillers & Vintners, part of Grand Metropolitan Plc, the international food, drinks and retailing group, are the market leaders in over 200 countries. Our large, worldwide trade mark portfolio includes brand leaders such as Smirnoff Vodka, J&B Rare, Baileys Original Irish Cream, Malibu, Croft Original and Le Piat d'Or.

We now have an opening for a Trade Mark Specialist to assist our Commercial Law Executive at our corporate office near Regents Park.

For this technically and commercially challenging role applications are invited from solicitors and barristers, or members of the Institute of Trade Mark Agents, with considerable experience of both UK and International Trade Marks, gained either in private practice or a commercial department. Candidates with less experience will also be considered and will be provided with full training and support to enable them to "grow" into the role.

Excellent interpersonal skills are essential for the role, as is the ability to take initiative and communicate effectively with senior management. In return the successful candidate will be rewarded with a highly competitive salary package including executive level car and other benefits associated with a progressive company and will have the opportunity to progress further within the group.

For further details please contact our consultant Mandy Browne on (071) 583 0073 (Day) or (081) 840 5496 (Evenings and Weekends), or fax your CV on (071) 353 3908.

16-18 New Bridge Street, London EC4V 6AU.  
29-31 Oxford Street, London W1R 1RE.

**BADENOCH & CLARK**  
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## Young Lawyer Intellectual Property

Clyde & Co. is one of the top City firms with a substantial International Commercial Practice and an enviable record of growth. Its main strengths are in litigation and company/commercial work and it wishes to strengthen its Intellectual Property department by taking on lawyers to specialise in this field. I am inviting interest from young solicitors or barristers both newly qualified and with about four years experience who are looking for:

- More recognition
- Scope for individual style
- An informal and friendly environment
- A good supply of challenging work
- A wider range of work

Phone me, as independent consultant to Clyde & Co., to ask whether and how: 071-722 9398 between 9 and 10 p.m. or 071-222 5555 during office hours. Or write to me: Mrs. Indira Brown, Berndtson International, 6 Westminster Palace Gardens, Artillery Row, London SW1P 1RL.

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## Corporate Lawyer

### Major International plc

c. £50,000 + Package

London West End

Very stimulating, transaction related work as Number Two in the legal department at the centre of an acquisitive plc. An exceptional opportunity for an ambitious corporate lawyer.

#### THE COMPANY

- Very major international, British plc. Turnover approaching £1.5bn.
- Renowned for its fast moving and entrepreneurial international acquisitions policy.
- The legal department, which includes the secretarial function, is central to the company's successful growth.

#### THE POSITION

- Mix of legal and corporate duties, the emphasis being on corporate finance related activities. Number two in the department.
- Close involvement with a wide variety of complex international transactions, working with senior management internally, merchant banks, brokers and lawyers externally.
- This is a key position in a small, high quality department.

#### QUALIFICATIONS

- Essential: graduate solicitor, experience in the legal department of a substantial plc.
- Desirable: international and corporate finance transaction experience.
- Personal qualities: resilience, tact and written and verbal fluency. Aged 30-35.

Please reply in writing, enclosing full cv.  
Reference 110523  
54 Jermyn Street, London, SW1Y 6LX



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MANCHESTER • 061-905 1458 • GLASGOW • 041-204 4334  
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### PRIVATE PRACTICE

**CITY COMMERCIAL £28-50,000**  
Unique opportunity, to join this small, friendly, company – commercial department, in a leading City firm.

The department is extremely busy handling high quality work, they now seek additional solicitors nq – 5 yrs PQE with either experience in commercial (negotiating and drafting contracts, and private company work) or corporate (M & A and yellow book work). Candidates should have a good academic background.

**CITY LITIGATION £26,000**  
Leading City firm seeks a newly or recently qualified solicitor to handle a broad spread of commercial litigation with a technical emphasis. You must have good academics and a major City firm articles, with good communication skills.

**Holborn COMMERCIAL PROPERTY £45,000**  
Our client a medium sized firm seeks a solicitor with 3+ years PQG to handle very high quality work, including commercial leases and development. You must have handled high quality work with a recognized firm. Good prospects.

**City EEC COMPETITION LAW to £35,000**  
Our client is a major international practice with a dedicated EEC group and established offices overseas. They seek a solicitor 1-2 years qualified, with previous EEC experience. Opportunity to travel.  
A separate post exists for a lawyer with c3 yrs PQE to handle a mix of EEC/commercial law. You will have sound drafting skills.

### INDUSTRY

**LEGAL ADVISER £30-35k AAE + Car**  
Our client a well known FMCG Company seeks a young solicitor or barrister to handle a broad range of commercial work including commercial contracts, joint ventures, IP, acquisitions and disposals.

**LEGAL ADVISER £35k + Car**  
Our client seeks a young Solicitor or Barrister with good company commercial experience to handle all aspects of IP as well as contracts and EEC matters.

For further information please call or write to Karen Mulvihill or Ian Pearce on

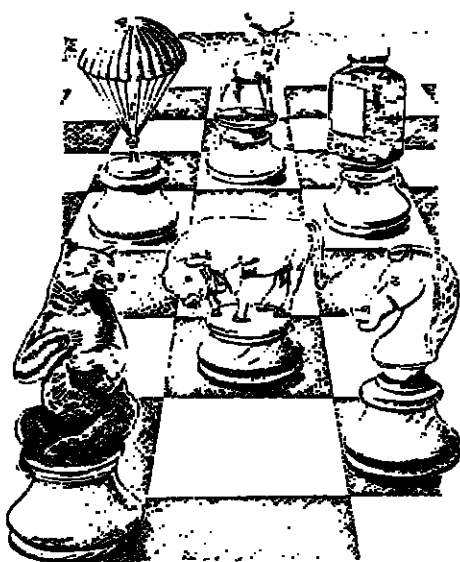
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## EMPLOYMENT AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS LAWYERS

### An incentive for a brighter future



Linklaters & Paines' Employment and Employee Benefits Group reflects the increasing importance of this field of work within corporate law. The Group has grown to over twenty lawyers, practising in the areas of employment, pensions and share option schemes.

Continuing demand for creative legal advice has given rise to further opportunities within the Group. We are now looking for qualified lawyers with a proven interest in any of the above areas.

The Corporate Department's client base means that our employment and benefits work covers as broad a range as you will find anywhere. And with 1992 fast approaching, we are already working on a variety of international projects with our overseas offices and other foreign lawyers.

Employment and employee benefits law is constantly evolving. The keys to your success will therefore be a flair for innovative thinking, the personality to deal directly with clients, and the ability to work well within a team. In addition, a second European language would be particularly advantageous.

In return we offer an attractive salary and excellent career prospects: the Group is young and you will grow with it. If you would like to know more about the position, please contact Anna Thorne at Linklaters & Paines, Barrington House, 59-67 Gresham St, London EC2V 7JA.



**LINKLATERS & PAINES**

### Company Lawyer Financial Services Group Northern Home Counties Excellent remuneration and valuable benefits

Our client is the specialist retail mortgage arm of one of the largest financial services groups in the United Kingdom. The company has achieved phenomenal growth in recent years and intends to continue expansion in all areas of its business.

The company now seeks a lawyer to provide wide ranging legal advice to the directors and staff. More specifically, guidance will be provided on the development of mortgage products and procedures, including the vetting of new advertising and marketing literature. The appointee will also be closely involved in the provision of legal services to related business units within the group and will have the opportunity of handling a wide variety of general commercial matters.

The successful candidate may be either a solicitor or barrister with a broad knowledge of property law and consumer credit. It is likely his or her experience will have been gained from within either a substantial private practice or, ideally, a financial services environment. Commercial awareness and the ability to adapt quickly within a fast moving company are prerequisites.

The remuneration package includes a generous mortgage subsidy, quality car, non-contributory pension and private health insurance. It is envisaged that the role will encompass general management responsibilities and offer considerable scope for future career progression.

For a strictly confidential discussion, telephone or write to Philip Price or Geoffrey Mather, quoting reference 1317 at FLA, 16 Old Bond Street, London, W1X 3DB. Tel: 071-491 3811.



SEARCH, SELECTION  
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SERVICES

#### Entertainment/Co/Comm - West End - to £35,000

Solicitor newly qualified to two years is required to handle company acquisitions/disposals, general commercial agreements, film financing and distribution agreements.

#### Employment - West End - to £35,000

High profile practice has a vacancy in their employment department for both contentious and non-contentious matters. Newly qualified or up to two years qualified solicitor required.

#### Shipping Litigation - City - to £45,000

Major Commercial and Maritime practice requires an ambitious lawyer, 2-4 qualified to handle mainly 'dry' work with a small percentage of 'wet' work.

#### Computer Company - London/Thames Valley - to £35,000

Our client has a vacancy for a solicitor with at least 2 years experience of commercial work including, distribution and agency agreements, finance leases, joint ventures, EEC and computer related law.

#### Commercial Property - Midlands - to £27,000

A major food producer requires an experienced commercial conveyancer to act for the pension fund seeking investment properties and acquiring land for the group's activities.

### Garfield Robbins

Legal Recruitment and Search Consultants 21 Bloomsbury Way, London WC1A 2TH Contact Nicholas Robbins or Gavin Crocker on 071-405 1123 (evenings on 061 646 4855)

### City/West End

#### CO/COMMERCIAL PARTNER c. £100,000

This is an outstanding opportunity to join a progressive Central London practice. You are likely to be a salaried partner aspiring to equity and with a sound background in company/commercial law.

You will be handling a range of high quality commercial and corporate transactions, on behalf of prominent clients, including new issues, sale and acquisition of private companies, corporate reorganisations, management buy-outs, establishment of companies and their restructure and joint venture arrangements. Ambition, flair and a creative and constructive approach will be pre-requisites. The partnership package is substantial, commensurate with the importance of the position.

#### EMPLOYMENT £35,000+

A major Central London practice wishes to appoint an additional solicitor with some good relevant experience to join its established employment department, handling both contentious and non-contentious matters.

### Out of London

#### INSOLVENCY c.£20,000 to c. £50,000 AAE

Yorkshire's leading practice requires two insolvency solicitors of high calibre from all ranges of qualification including newly qualified who would be given appropriate training. Here is an opportunity to handle stimulating work; remuneration will be similar to that of London.

#### CO/COMMERCIAL £ EXCELLENT

Our client is a recognised commercial practice in the M3 Corridor with a requirement for a high calibre solicitor to join a team concentrating on quality company work. In particular this will include reconstructions, shareholder agreements, share options and M & A work. The ideal appointee will be around 2 years pq and enjoy a high level of client contact. This position carries excellent prospects and a highly competitive salary and benefits package.

### 90 Qualifiers

Now is the time to contact us for advice and help in planning the next and vital step in your career. For those qualifying this year, there is a wide variety of vacancies in firms ranging from the smaller, progressive practices to the leading names in the City and Central London and throughout the Country. Telephone or write to us in strictest confidence if you are looking for a challenging and rewarding future.

## Law Personnel

Staff specialists to the legal profession worldwide  
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(answerphone after office hours)

Continued on next page



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## LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

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## PRIVATE PRACTICE - LONDON

## COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

Major 'City' practice with thriving property group. Handles general commercial property, development and financing. Seeks one bright solicitor, 1-2 years P.Q.E. Good team spirit, high quality work.

## COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

General commercial litigation post within highly respected medium-sized firm. Newly to recently qualified. Strong academic background and large firm articles. Early responsibility, excellent prospects.

## COMPANY/COMMERCIAL

Medium-sized practice handling 'City' type work. Seeks ambitious, determined solicitor 18 months - 3 years qualified. Corporate finance and general commercial work. Short run to partnership. Aged 26-30.

## EMPLOYMENT LAW

Excellent quality non-contentious work available within large City firm. Seeks solicitor 0-2 years qualified. Strong academic background, must have relevant experience. Sophisticated environment.

## COMPANY/COMMERCIAL

Equity partner designate within small-medium firm. Assist development of department. Experienced commercial lawyer, ten or more years qualified, aged 35-45. Client following preferred, immediate salaried partnership.

## COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

Highly respected 2nd tier firm with leading reputation in property field. Full range of substantial commercial property development. Prospects for solicitor from major firm, 6-8 years p.q.e., age early 30's.

## CORPORATE TAX

Leading medium-sized commercial practice. Rapidly growing specialist tax group. All aspects of U.K. corporate tax, some property tax. Career move for 2-3 year tax lawyer seeking earlier partnership.

## BANKING

Medium-sized commercial practice, well-known for Corporate/Banking work. Banking/finance lawyers sought, 1-3 years p.q.e., either from City practice or financial institution. Impressive international client base.

## CONSTRUCTION

Well-known practice with specialist construction group. Flourishing team of dedicated people. Contentious and/or non-contentious work. Solicitors or barristers, 1-3 years, from private practice or construction industry.

## COMPLIANCE

Major banking group with interests worldwide. Small but high profile department. General compliance, FSA and related work for whole group. Solicitor or barrister with general company/commercial experience.

## ESSEX

Entrepreneurial company well known for proactive approach to the market place. No. 2 position. Commercial workload including contracts, IP, licensing and employment. 4 years p.q.e., general commercial experience.

## IP/COMMERCIAL

Market leader in international communications and media. Expanding front line legal team. Commercial work with strong IP bias. Directly advising both senior and line management. Young lawyer: c. 3 years experience.

## INTERNATIONAL BANK

Leading international commercial bank. Assistant to Legal Counsel. General company and banking work. Lawyer up to 3 years qualified. Banking experience preferred but not essential. Strong personal skills.

## CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Leading hi-tech company. Sole legal adviser. Commercial contracts, IP, property related matters, corporate affairs. Reporting directly to M.D. Experienced company/commercial lawyer. IT experience advantageous.

## COMMERCE &amp; INDUSTRY

## MERGERS &amp; ACQUISITION

Progressive international merchant bank. Well established and dynamic M&A team. Excellent prospects for recently qualified lawyers. Strong academic backgrounds and City firm training essential.

## CAPITAL MARKETS

Leading US bank. Small cosmopolitan team. Broad range of work with strong European element. Very front line role. Excellent prospects for long term development. 0-3 years qualified with international finance experience.

## COMPANY/COMMERCIAL

Large UK company. Medium-sized, well established legal function. Complete range of quality company/commercial work. Lawyers up to 3 years experience. Private practice or industrial backgrounds. 25-32 years old.

## OIL &amp; GAS

Major integrated oil company. Small highly commercial legal department. Head office in C. London. Upstream work. Previous experience preferable. Challenging and rewarding environment. Senior position. Excellent package.

## SOUTH LONDON

Well known financial services company. Expanding legal department. General corporate, commercial, financial and related work. Newly/recently qualified ideally with some exposure to finance. Excellent first move into commerce.

TAYLOR • ROOT

LEGAL RECRUITMENT ADVISERS • LONDON

AS A PROFESSIONAL RECRUITMENT CONSULTANCY, WE NEVER APPROACH CLIENTS WITHOUT YOUR PRIOR CONSENT.

In complete confidence please contact Nick Root or Peter Morris (Private Practice) or Paul Mewis LLB (Commerce), on 071-936 2565  
Or write to: Taylor Root, Ludgate House, 107 Fleet Street, London EC4A 2AB. Alternatively please feel free to telephone us evenings and weekends on 081-675 6384 or 081-747 1808

## 1990 QUALIFIERS

## COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

To £27,000  
Leading City firm seeks a 1990 qualifier to join its commercial litigation team. Outstanding opportunity to gain wide ranging experience of the highest quality, often with an international flavour.

## PLANNING

c. £27,000  
Newly qualified lawyer with some experience and a keen interest in planning law is sought by a leading City firm with renowned specialist planning and environmental practice. Quality of training is unrivalled.

## SHIPPING LITIGATION

TOP CITY RATE  
City firm seeks newly qualified lawyer, ideally with some wet or dry experience, to join its rapidly expanding Shipping Department. Excellent prospects.

If you are interested in any of these or the many other vacancies we have available, or merely in discussing in confidence the various options open to you on qualification, then contact Adrian Fox on 071-405 6062 (071-625 9417 evenings/weekends) or write to Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 9 Brownlow Street, London WC1V 6JD.

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## LAWYERS PLACING LAWYERS FIRST

## Qualifying in 1990?

As qualification approaches many important decisions have to be made. Which area should you specialise in? Should you move on qualification or not? If so, where? What salary can you reasonably expect? We can advise on all of these areas and will be happy to discuss any aspect of your future career with you.

Staffed exclusively by qualified lawyers, and widely regarded as the leading recruitment consultancy, Quarry Dougall is ideally placed to offer fellow lawyers impartial professional advice. Confidentiality and discretion are absolutely guaranteed. In both theory and practice, Quarry Dougall never contacts any firm on your behalf without your prior knowledge and consent.

On the right is a small selection of our current vacancies. If you would like further information in relation to these or the many others that we have available, please contact Jonathan Macrae on 071-405 6062 (081 672 8340) evenings/weekends or write to him at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 9 Brownlow Street, London WC1V 6JD.

## COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

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Further information is obtainable from The Academic Registrar, Faculty of Law, The University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT, to whom completed applications should be returned by 29 June 1990.

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A background in local government and formal accountancy qualifications would be real assets; but relevant management experience, including involvement in strategic decision making, and exceptional personal qualities would also equip you for this role.

The package on offer reflects the seniority of this post, the salary will be within the range £24,600 - £26,500 and other benefits include generous relocation assistance to this beautiful part of the country. A cost of living pay award is due from July.

For an informal discussion, ring Frank Twynning, on Truro (0872) 74282 ext. 2204. For an information pack and application form, call Judith Tretheway (ext. 2203) or write to the County Treasurer, County Hall, Truro, Cornwall TR1 3BD.

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Manager of Finance and Administration

The Greater London Fund for the Blind (GLFB), a medium sized fund-raising charity supporting 15 welfare organisations working for the benefit of blind Londoners, requires an administrator with practical experience of computerised bookkeeping and accounts to be responsible for the development and the cost-effective and efficient running of its financial, administrative and personnel functions.

Reporting to the Director (and eventually deputising in his absence), this senior post includes responsibility for the following areas:

Finance: Production of the annual budget, annual accounts (in cooperation with auditors), monthly management accounts, cash flow forecasts and other management information required.

Administration: Overall management, coordination and supervision to ensure the effectiveness of administrative systems, office machinery and office routines.

Personnel: Normal personnel functions including recruitment, training, discipline and pay for a staff of about 40, half of whom work at head office.

A major challenge will be the immediate introduction of computer based systems of bookkeeping and payroll accounting in an IBM compatible PC.

This post requires an energetic, practical individual of mature personality, resilience and drive, able to relate well with others. The right person will enjoy leading a team of well-motivated individuals as well as being part of a larger community working to help improve the quality of life for visually handicapped Londoners.

The starting salary is in the region of £17,500 per annum. Benefits include a contributory pension scheme and 20 working days annual holiday (currently under review).

Written applications for interview with CV to The Director, Greater London Fund for the Blind, 2 Wyndham Place, London W1H 2AQ.



## HORIZONS

# Probation officers move to the forefront

The service that advises offenders, Beryl Dixon finds, is trying to retain its main job in the midst of change

John Patten, the Home Office minister, has said: "We are looking to the probation service to move centre stage and to deal with even greater numbers of more serious offenders in the community."

Under the 1973 Power of Criminal Courts Act, probation officers must "advise, assist and befriend" those on probation. With this in mind, Mr Patten continued: "I know that the service has acquired useful skills and techniques, mixing authority and control with compassion and understanding, which, combined with the discipline of court orders, can help to bring about a change in behaviour." Yet there is fear in some parts of the service that under proposals in an imminent White Paper the service will be expected to move away from its social-work base, and become more punitive.

Will it, for instance, lose its responsibility for supervising community service orders?

There is some justified criticism, says Harry Fletcher, of the National Association of Probation Officers, that offenders in some areas receive more lenient treatment than in others, and more standardization may be necessary.

Probation officers have always had to do a difficult balancing act.

I visited one area that believes it has got the balance right — Oldham, part of the Greater Manchester service.

Andrew Underdown, the divisional chief probation officer, says: "We do wish to retain our social work base and we use social work principles in treating offenders as individuals."

"The sentences are demanding on the offender. There could be a conflict for some staff between the concepts of care and control, but personally I think it is one of language. We hold offenders to the terms of the probation order. We do not make excuses for them, but we do try to get them to analyse the reasons for their behaviour."

The best-known aspects of the probation service's work are its reports for the courts and work with offenders who are given probation as an alternative to a custodial sentence. However, responsibilities have widened over the years so that officers are involved at every stage of a case.

Social inquiry reports have changed in the past few years, the Oldham staff say. They are no longer purely biographical but concentrate on factors relevant to the court's decision, and suggest, for example, which type of supervision order might be appropriate.



BARRY GREEDWOOD

LYNNE CORCORAN (left), a social science graduate, works as a probation officer in Oldham's juvenile team. One of the first things she had to learn was how to decide priorities, even though in her team the week is fairly structured. "I have juvenile court and meetings with social services, the police and my team on set days," she says. "Around these, I fit my share of group work, social inquiry reports, paperwork, and other things on a day-to-day basis. Today, for example, I have a meeting to arrange next week's day centre work for motor vehicle offenders."

There are different routes into the probation service, mature entrants with varied experience being particularly welcome. Further information is available from Probation Service Division, Home Office, Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AT.

Work for the courts is still important. Because it costs £18 a week to supervise an offender in the community, compared with £275 in prison, judges and magistrates make more use of alternatives to jail when they are fully aware of what these involve.

The Greater Manchester service, like many others, has produced booklets for judges describing its work and the types of programmes it runs. Reports themselves take up a large slice of time and often have to be done quickly, meaning that officers may have to be good at organizing

and choosing priorities. It was in Oldham that the Department of Social Security cracked down on moonlighting taxi-drivers last year. Forty were prosecuted and 40 reports were required within days.

After sentence, probation officers work with offenders in various ways. Ten years ago, the main method was reporting. Officers attended at set times for individual advisory and counselling sessions. Courts still make probation orders with no further conditions, but many make greater use of probation service-devised pro-

grammes, which may be administered by the service itself or community organizations. "We have put a lot of effort into these in the past year," Mr Underdown says, "and the courts have realized their potential."

All encroach on free time and all carry strict penalties, including the ultimate threat of prison for non-compliance. Programmes range in length and specialization, from short courses on alcohol or drug abuse, to longer ones, culminating in the acquisition of

basic work skills. All involve discussion groups, largely run by probation officers. An offender's job takes priority, so a large amount of group and individual work must be done in evenings and at weekends, with obvious effects on officers' social life. Supervising community service orders — by probation officers or by the community service organizers working with them — involves even more unsocial hours.

Other responsibilities of the service are: thorough care, maintaining contact with prisoners and

their families during sentence — automatic in the case of under-21s; specialist work with juvenile offenders, in close liaison with social workers, and civil work, largely providing reports about the future of the children of divorcing parents. In addition, probation officers these days liaise with other agencies, working on crime prevention, often taking the lead in initiating projects.

Policy varies in different areas, so that in some it is possible to retain a generic caseload, while in others, officers may specialize in one aspect for two or three years.

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For an informal discussion about the post, contact Alan Jackson, retiring Head of Leisure Services, on 0279 446400.

More information about Harlow, the Council and this post is available together with an application form from the General Manager's Office, Harlow Council, Town Hall, Harlow, CM20 1BJ. Telephone 0279 446001. Closing Date: 18th May, 1990.

### CLEVELAND COUNTY COUNCIL



### SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

### Managing the change agenda — can you fit the profile?

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£19,632 — £21,042

The postholder will be responsible for —

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- \* ensuring the programme of service development is relevant.

Candidates will have to —

- \* demonstrate strong analytical and writing skills.
- \* demonstrate experience of applied social policy.
- \* be graduates or equivalent.
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Application forms and written particulars can be obtained by telephoning the Personnel Section on (0642) 246945 — direct line. The closing date for return of completed application forms is Friday, 18th May, 1990.

It is anticipated that interviews will take place during week commencing 4th June, 1990.

We are working towards equality for women, black people and people with disabilities. All applicants who have the support of the Disabling Resettlement Officer will be granted an interview.

### FAST TRACK TO YOUR FUTURE



Centro is the body responsible for procuring local rail services, subsidised bus services, concessionary travel and providing passenger information in the West Midlands. It is also responsible for improving passenger transport provision through projects such as Midland Metro.

Midland Metro is an advanced light rail rapid system for the West Midlands.

The first line between Birmingham and Wolverhampton is to be completed by 1992. Further lines linking Wolverhampton, Walsall, Dudley and Birmingham city centre to the NEC and airport are currently before Parliament and further bills are planned.

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PRINCIPAL ENGINEER £16331 - £18559 (ref M/74)

ENGINEER £12908 - £15099 (ref M/75)

These posts are initially to progress Midland Metro routes from enactment of Parliamentary Bills to letting of contracts. The duties include investigating options for line construction and operation, preparation of specifications and project management of track, vehicle and system design.

Applicants should have several years experience in engineering, preferably in transport/highways and be familiar with project control and contracts/tendering. You should be educated to degree level and preferably possess a professional engineering qualification.

### DESIGN TEAM

SENIOR DESIGN ENGINEER/DESIGN ENGINEER (ref M/76)

£16331 - £18559 or £13961 - £15331

depending on experience and qualifications

This career grade post is part of the Design team which is responsible for progressing Midland Metro routes from concept through Parliamentary Bills to enactment.

The duties include preliminary route design, assessing broad corridor and detailed route options, supporting Parliamentary Bills and liaising with District Councils.

Applicants should have at least 2 years experience in engineering/planning, preferably transport related. You should be educated to degree level and preferably possess a professional engineering/planning qualification.

### ENVIRONMENT TEAM

SENIOR PLANNER £12908 - £15099 (ref M/77)

This post is part of the Environment team providing planning advice and support to the Metro Development department. The duties include environmental impact assessment, land use studies, landscape and architectural design.

Applicants should have at least 2 years appropriate experience. You should be educated to degree level and possess a professional planning qualification.

For all the above posts it is essential that you can work effectively as part of a team, show enthusiasm and energy for the project, be a good communicator and be able to cope with deadlines.

Benefits include £5000 relocation assistance where appropriate, free travelcard, staff restaurant, Local Government Superannuation Scheme.

Application form and further details are available from Maria Marlow, Personnel Department, Centro, 16 Summer Lane, Birmingham B19 3SD.

Tel 021 214 7030. Closing date: 25th May 1990.

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PO33-36

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A versatile and committed economic development professional is required to join a busy multi-disciplinary team and assist with an interesting and varied workload. Experience of economic development and a high educational standard is desirable. Although no particular academic background is required a related professional qualification would be useful.

The post offers wide experience with an innovative employer that is committed to developing its personnel.

Additional benefits include flexitime, subsidised restaurant, professional fees paid and a relocation package of up to £4,000. For an informal discussion telephone Fergus McMorrow, District Economic Development Officer on (0283) 45454 extension 2621.

Application forms and information pack available from the Head of Personnel and Committee Services, East Staffordshire District Council, Town Hall, Burton upon Trent DE14 2EB. Tel: Burton upon Trent (0283) 45454 extension 3102 during office hours or Burton upon Trent (0283) 42703 after 5.00 pm and at weekends for an answerphone service. Please quote reference No. D/2/5.

Closing date for applications is 28th May 1990.

Canvassing will disqualify.

This Council is an equal opportunities employer.

**EAST STAFFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICE

### INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SERVICE of GREAT BRITAIN

### DIRECTOR

This post will become vacant in October on the resignation of the present Director, Miss W.J. Rouse O.B.E. Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced people with a high level of leadership and management skills to direct this important voluntary agency.

ISS(GB) is an independent Branch of the international agency which has its Headquarters in Geneva. It is responsible primarily for the International Casework Programme which can link social workers around the world to help them solve individual problems arising from movement between countries. It is also involved in a number of interesting programmes linked to this work. At the British Branch these include a Foreign Marriage Advisory Service, a programme of support for elderly refugees in this country and the Return of Talent to Africa Programme helping Africans with high levels of skill in fields relevant to the development of their country to find suitable posts. Other projects are under consideration. ISS(GB) needs to play a full part in the work of the international organisation.

The Branch receives a grant from the Department of Health but raises most of its income from voluntary sources through the work of a highly competent Committee.

These activities need to be coordinated by someone with energy and drive. Such a person would find this an absorbing and rewarding post. Salary not less than £20,000 p.a.

Applications, with details of qualifications and experience, by June 7th 1990 to: SIR TERENCE STREETON KBE, CMG, INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SERVICE CRANMER HOUSE, 38, BRUXTON ROAD, LONDON SW9 6DD.

Envelopes should be marked "In Confidence".

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Should you be interested in further details of this position and an application form, please telephone or write to the Director of Leisure Services, Maitland Square, Houghton-le-Spring, Tyne and Wear DH4 4BL. Telephone: (091) 512 0444 (ext. 231/232). Please ask for Joanne Cartes or Janine Leach.

Closing date for application forms: 18th May, 1990, 23

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France RGN's with minimum two years experience for the American Hospital of PARIS, Brush/brush/EC passport holders. Knowledge of French to GCSE O-Level/Advanced. Twelve month contract. Salary: FF114,134-PPH \$4,600pp.

\*Preparatory courses in medical French courses arranged in London.

To apply please contact: See Bentley, RGN, Medic International, 4 Thameside Centre, New Bridge Road, Brentford, Middlesex, TW8 0AT

Tel 081 568 4300



# 'Vigilance' required for disregard of spirit of the game

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

SENDINGS-OFF in each of the English and Welsh cup finals on Saturday produced a slightly melancholy conclusion to the 1989-90 season and emphasized the need for vigilance by all the home unions now that they have embraced national competitive structures.

The dismissal of John Gadd in the Pilkington final, and Andrew Kembery in the Schweppes final, did not mar either occasion significantly, though both Gloucester and Neath would have preferred it not to have happened. But the warning signs are plain.

December was a sad month in Wales, when four players from senior clubs were sent off on the same day, and over the opening three months of the season dismissals increased by 41 per cent, even though the sin bin is still in operation. The figures for the English season will not be collated until mid-summer but dismissals-off by London Society referees of the have reached a new high of 194 compared with the society's previous record of 172.

The Rugby Football Union established a working party early this season to report on

ways and means of preventing violence. The report, compiled by Ian Boer, Andy Ripley and Tony Trigg, is being considered by the RFU's various sub-committees. Several proposals are in the pipeline but the report suggests there is no need to change the laws because it is the application of them that is important.

The working party discovered that players felt there was inconsistent treatment of offenders in parts of the country and recommended that players sent off in national league, Pilkington Cup or divisional matches should appear before a RFU disciplinary board rather than, as now, their own county disciplinary committees.

They suggested that touch judges, competent to indicate acts of foul play, should be present at national league and Pilkington Cup matches, even though this would place a great strain on the manpower available to referees' societies. That would do away with the anomaly of county cup matches having three qualified officials at semi-finals and finals but no touch judges to flag for foul play in the first

four rounds of the Pilkington Cup.

The working party also said the RFU should have access to video recordings in line with recent International Rugby Football Board recommendations. Last month the New Zealand RFU council accepted that the use of video evidence was likely to be a critical factor in the referee's authority. "I think it gets away from the spirit of the game," Tonks said. But the game's spirit is in the hands of today's players and if they fail to observe it in increasing numbers, then they must be made to do so.

Peter Varrault, the junior vice-president of the RFU, and Bob Rogers, of Sussex, have been invited to prepare a paper on England's recommendations on the amateur regulations relating to "communications for reward". An IRFB special committee, under the chairmanship of Sir Ewart Bell, of Ireland, will consider the paper along with other recommendations before October's interim meeting of the board.

## OVERSEAS FOOTBALL

# Ajax end monopoly but their supporters spoil the party

By Keith Blackmore

AJAX broke PSV Eindhoven's four-year monopoly of the Dutch championship on Sunday but not without providing a reminder of why they will not be allowed to enter the European Cup next season.

Their 1-1 draw against Nijmegen was enough to carry them to the title which they last won in 1985, but the match was interrupted for 15 minutes by pitch invasions, reviving memories of the missile-throwing which led to the abandonment of Ajax's UEFA Cup-tie against Austria Vienna last September and subsequently to their suspension from European competition.

Thus there will be no Dutch representative in the champions competition but PSV, who beat Haarlem 2-0, with goals by Kieft and Vanenburg at the weekend, will take part in the European Cup Winners' Cup, and Twente Enschede and Roda JC will enter the UEFA Cup.

Portugal, on the other hand, may have two representatives in the next European Cup. Benfica

would qualify as holders, if they were to beat AC Milan in the European Cup final on May 23, and Porto have qualified as Portuguese champions by beating Sporting 1-0 on Sunday.

Couto's goal carried Porto beyond the reach of Benfica and gave them their tenth first division championship. Benfica will take consolation from their performance against União, whom they beat 4-2, with the Swedish forward, Magnusson, equal to the scoring record for his 32nd goal of the season.

An individual scoring feat was also the principal feature of the league season. Real had long since won the Spanish championship, but 100,000 people thought it worth attending the Bernabéu stadium on Saturday to see if the Mexican forward, Hugo Sánchez, could score three times against Real Oviedo and equal the scoring record for a single season, 38, set by Telmo Zarra, of Athletic Bilbao, in 1951.

Sánchez obliged with goals in

the 37th minute, a header in the 46th and another in the 63rd. He thus equalled the achievement of Alfredo Di Stefano by becoming the club's leading scorer for a fifth time.

Real won the match 5-2, the last goal being their 107th of the season, another record, and they finished the season 11 points ahead of the second placed team, Barcelona.

Marselles took another step towards retaining the French championship by beating Auxerre, who had won their previous seven league matches. Francescoli opened the scoring and Papin made the match safe, with his thirtieth goal of the season.

Club Brugge won the Belgian championship with a match to spare by beating St Truiden 3-0, while Anderlecht, in second place, could only draw with Beveren. Anderlecht will hope for a better performance when they play Sampdoria in the Cup Winners' Cup in Gothenburg tomorrow.

## OVERSEAS LEAGUE RESULTS

**ALBANIAN:** 17. Tomori 1, Lokomotiv 2; 18. Partizani 2, Dinamo 1; 19. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 20. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 21. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 22. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 23. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 24. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 25. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 26. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 27. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 28. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 29. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 30. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 31. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 32. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 33. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 34. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 35. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 36. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 37. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 38. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 39. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 40. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 41. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 42. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 43. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 44. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 45. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 46. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 47. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 48. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 49. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 50. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 51. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 52. Dinamo 2, Partizani 1; 53. 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Bang, like the sound of a gunshot, went our mast support and challenge for third place

## Everyone on deck to see Britain's bright hopes sink

100 miles east of Georgetown, South Carolina, United States

DISASTER struck us at 7.15GMT. It was blowing 23 knots and we were pushing the boat hard under a full mainsail and No. 3 genoa into the steep swells of the Gulf Stream.

On the previous tack, we had taken 10 miles out of Merit, our rival for third place overall, to the east, which has been shadowing Peter Blake's leading yacht, Steinlager.

We were the most northerly boat, riding the strongest part of the Stream with The Card immediately behind and Fisher & Paykel to leeward.

We were just congratulating ourselves for having recovered from such a poor start when bang... the port diagonal rod supporting the middle of the mast broke in two, the gunshot sound being the only warning which brought everyone up on deck.

Without this essential support, the mast bent over like a longbow, leaving us only seconds to throw the boat on to the opposite tack and save it from breaking in two. We did... just, but it took a little longer for the reality to sink in.

Unless something equally dramatic befalls Steinlager, Fisher & Paykel or Merit, our chase for third place is spent. Now, the race is to retain fourth place from Roger Nilson's Swedish ketch, The Card, and Charles Jourdan, the French yacht skippered by Alain Gabbay, who balked us so badly at the start.

Rothmans had a comfortable 92-hour cushion over The Card and a 103-hour lead over Charles Jourdan at the start of this final leg back to Southampton. It is far from comfortable now but, with luck, we should be able to reach Georgetown, replace both D3 rods (the starboard rod merely as a precaution)



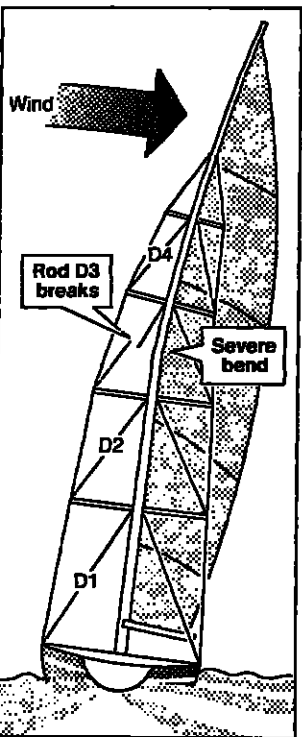
The skipper of Rothmans reports on the final leg of the Whitbread Round the World Race

and be back to our position within 30 hours.

Pit stops in a strange port are always more involved than at a racetrack. But within minutes of our calling back to base, our shore crew were sorting out the logistics. New cobalt rods, machined to size, have been rushed down from Charlottesville in north Carolina.

The team has flown up from Fort Lauderdale and a crane is standing by to pull the entire mast out if required. If all goes well, we will be tied up for no more than an hour.

During the lonely sail in, we



Where disaster struck

## Sunstone gains overall win in slow opener

By Malcolm McKeag

THE 1990 offshore racing season got off to a slow start — and that is official — over the weekend when David Head's Beneteau 51 Aida, first to finish, took almost 40 hours to complete the 155-mile Cervantes Trophy course from Cowes to Le Havre, by way of the Dorset coast.

Aida's average speed was just under four knots, the limit at which the Royal Ocean Racing Club's regulations officially declare a "slow race" and bring into force special radio reporting procedures to ensure competitors remain accounted for.

This was the first race in which the main trophy went to a yacht racing under the relatively new International Measurement System, but there was nothing new about the

overall winner: Tom and Vicki Jackson's Sunstone. This remarkable Sparkman and Stephens design, which celebrates her 21st birthday later this year, appears able to win under any system the handicappers can devise — although in this case perseverance must account for much.

Two-thirds of the fleet retired, principally out of boredom.

RESULTS: RORC Cervantes Trophy 1990: 1. Sunstone (Mr and Mrs T Jackson, SAS one-off, elapsed time 34hr 48min 48sec); 2. Beneteau 51 Aida (David Head, 38hr 25min 33sec); 3. Acacia (D Whitworth, Sigma 38, 38hr 55min 30sec); 4. International Offshore Rule 1, Kelt (A Hurrell, Benet 38); 5. Beneteau 51 (38hr 55min 30sec); 6. Clio (39hr 55min 30sec); 7. Clio (39hr 55min 30sec); 8. Clio (39hr 55min 30sec); 9. Clio (39hr 55min 30sec); 10. Clio (39hr 55min 30sec); 11. Clio (39hr 55min 30sec); 12. Clio (39hr 55min 30sec); 13. Clio (39hr 55min 30sec); 14. Clio (39hr 55min 30sec); 15. Clio (39hr 55min 30sec); 16. Clio (39hr 55min 30sec); 17. Clio (39hr 55min 30sec); 18. Clio (39hr 55min 30sec); 19. Clio (39hr 55min 30sec); 20. Clio (39hr 55min 30sec); 21. Clio (39hr 55min 30sec); 22. Clio (39hr 55min 30sec); 23. Clio (39hr 55min 30sec); 24. Clio (39hr 55min 30sec); 25. Clio (39hr 55min 30sec); 26. Clio (39hr 55min 30sec); 27. Clio (39hr 55min 30sec); 28. Clio (39hr 55min 30sec); 29. 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# Gower in vintage form as MCC beat the New Zealanders

**LORDS: MCC beat the New Zealanders by six wickets**  
BANK holidays, Lord's and the sunshine are a heady mixture at any time. The goodly throng who came to headquarters yesterday — a strong contingent from the Antipodes had left Earls Court empty — were also given the blessing of a vintage innings by David Gower.

In making 97 from 104 balls, in his most fluent style, he caressed the ball to the boundary 11 times and waited it for two sixes. He was the destroyer in chief of a New Zealand attack, later also taken apart by Middlesex's Keith Brown, with 79 not out, as MCC, consisting largely of a Hampshire, Gloucestershire, Middlesex combination cruised to a comfortable win.

Not too much should be read into the result. It was an outing rather than a foray. New Zealand's batting demonstrated the attacking merits of Greatbatch, a burly left-hander already renowned as a fighter, and confirmed the strong striking ability of Jones, while Franklin and Martin

Crowe contributed impressive cameos. MCC's attack was tidy but genial and Tremlett and Bainbridge caused most problems.

New Zealand's total of 222 for eight eventually melted before Gower at his best and it was difficult, with the best will in the world, to agree with the MCC president when he made Brown, for all the robust merit of his innings, man of the match.

Gower, the familiar trademark — floppy white hat, red socks — on full view, brought a sigh of relief to every Englishman when he struck the first ball he received a resounding crack past cover for four. Within the next three overs any doubts that all was right with his world were cast aside. Morrison was the sufferer.

First six into the Mound; then in his next over, which cost 17 runs, two fours and a two, all square of the wicket.

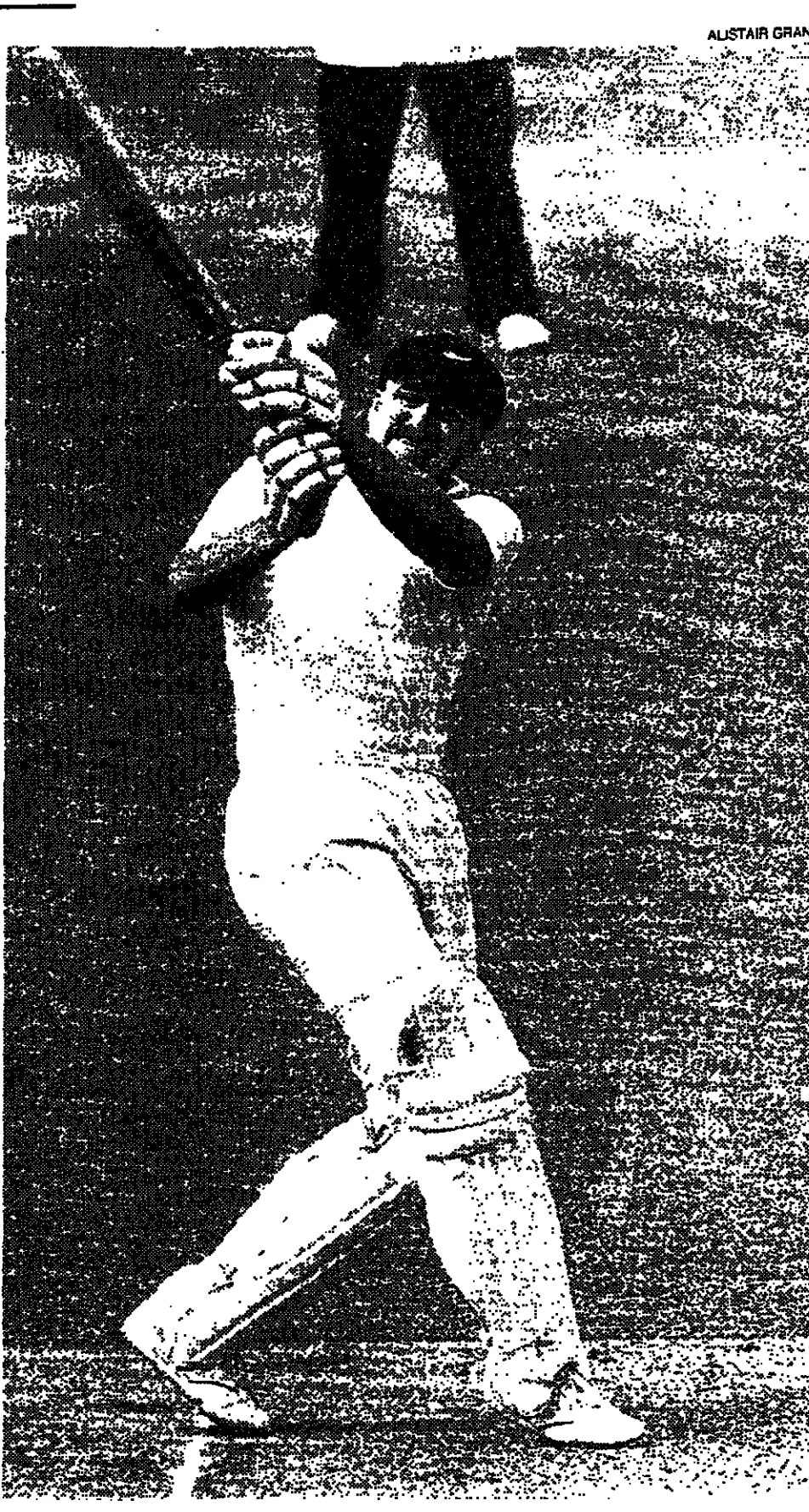
Morrison had been bowling with a damaged finger, ligaments on his left hand, sustained in a brave attempt at a diving catch in the second over of the innings.

But while Gower was adding insult to injury, other early MCC batsmen were faring less well. Terry dragged a wideish ball on to his stumps; Wright, the Gloucestershire captain, became bogged down and was out to a fine diving catch by the alert and impressive Parore behind the stumps. With Ramprakash snapped up at short extra, MCC were 62 for three and of these Gower had made 41.

Brown matched Gower run for run as he gained in confidence, as the two of them put on 109, and well before the end it was only a question of when MCC would win. Bainbridge accompanied Brown through the closing overs to round off a pleasing all-round day for him and victory came with four overs to spare.

● **SYDNEY:** Australia and Pakistan will play each other in two one-day matches in the United States later this month (AP reports). David Richards, Australian Cricket Board chief executive, said they would play in New York on May 12 and at the Los Angeles Coliseum on May 19.

## CRICKET



Attacking style: Greatbatch demonstrates fighting qualities against MCC at Lord's

**NEW ZEALANDERS**

T J Franklin c Tremlett b Trent	29
J J Crowe c and b Lever	4
A R Jones c Parore b Bainbridge	1
S A Thompson b Bainbridge	5
M J Greatbatch c Wright b Jarvis	52
M D Crowe c Parore b Jarvis	28
M W Priest c Bainbridge b Jarvis	26
Y A C Parore not out	6
M C Snedden not out	6
Extras (b 1, nb 2, w 15)	18
Total (8 wickets, 55 overs)	222
D K Morrison and J P Milne did not bat	
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-46, 3-129, 4-135, 5-164, 6-178, 7-208, 8-222	
BOWLING: Jarvis 11-1-49-2; Lever 11-1-45-1; Tremlett 11-1-32-8; Bainbridge 11-1-33-2	

**MCC**

V P Terry b Morrison	4
A J Wright c Parore b Snedden	8
D I Gower c Parore b Snedden	87
M R Ramprakash c M D Crowe	6
K R Brown not out	79
P Bainbridge not out	11
Extras (b 4, nb 3, w 4)	11
Total (4 wickets, 50.5 overs)	224
T M Tremlett, H J Parks, J K Lever, P C R Turner and K B S Jarvis did not bat	
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-46, 3-42, 4-171	
BOWLING: Morrison 5-1-33-0; Milne 10-4-51-1; Snedden 10-3-28-8; Tremlett 9-5-14-0; Priest 11-0-40-0; Jones 5-0-33-0	
Umpires: J D Bond and R Julian	

# Vengsarkar recall for England tour

**BOMBAY (Reuters)** — India recalled Dilip Vengsarkar, aged 34, the batsman who is a former captain, yesterday for this year's three-Test England tour in a 16-man party with only two players over 30.

Mohammad Azharuddin will lead the team, which includes Kapil Dev, aged 31, the all-rounder, who is also a former captain.

"It's a team for the Nineties because only two players are over 30," Raj Singh Dungarpur, the head of the selection committee, said.

Azharuddin was appointed the third India captain in the space of four months for the tour of New Zealand earlier this year. His side lost the three-Test series 1-0.

"It will be a tough Test series

for us, because we have not been winning," Azharuddin said. "It is a balanced batting side. We picked Vengsarkar for his experience. Our leg spinners will add variety. Narendra Hirwani bowls conventional leg spin and [Anil] Kumble bowls left-arm spin."

The tour will give Vengsarkar a chance to add another century to the three he has scored on each of his three previous visits to Lord's.

The party will travel to Bangalore for training from June 1 to 15 before leaving for England on June 22. The first match is against Yorkshire on June 30.

**TOUR PARTY:** Mohammad Azharuddin (captain), Ravindra Singh, Nayan Mongia, Sanjay Manjrekar, Sachin Tendulkar, Deep Vengsarkar, Dilip Vengsarkar, Anil Kumble, Prabhakar, Atul Wanskar, Sanjeev Sharma, Venkateshwar Rao, Narendra Hirwani, Nayan Mongia, Anil Kumble.

# Davis has a day to remember

**FOLKESTONE: Kent (20pts) beat Sussex (4) by five wickets**  
RICHARD Davis, the Kent left-arm spinner, was awarded his county cup after his bowling had brought a previously moribund match to life and paved the way for a Kent victory with time to spare.

Kent had lost the final wicket of their first innings to the first ball of the day and were facing a deficit of 109, passed 100 for the loss of only two wickets. Davis then dismissed Moores and the Wells brothers in the space of 12 balls without conceding a run. He finished with career-best figures of six for 59 in 26 overs as Sussex were bowled out for 189.

Kent, needing no more than 81 to win from 21 overs, recovered from the loss of two early wickets through Fleming and Taylor, both of whom scored at 79 and Ward fell to the score's level, leaving Marsh to glance his first ball for four.

**SUSSEX:** First Innings 356 (P W G Parker 107, A P Wells 69, N J Latham 51).

**Second Innings:**  
P W G Parker c Benson b Davis 48  
N J Latham c Wells b Davis 18  
P W G Parker c Wells b Davis 19  
A P Wells bow b Davis 13  
M P Spangitt bow b Davis 20  
C M Wells c Marsh b Davis 0  
J J Gould c Wells b Davis 0  
J J Gould c Wells b Davis 0  
J J Gould c Wells b Davis 0  
J J Gould c Wells b Davis 0  
Extras (b 2, lb 1, nb 6) 12  
Total 189

**FALL OF WICKETS:** 1-35, 2-44, 3-109, 4-105, 5-160, 6-180, 7-180, 8-175, 9-187  
**BOWLING:** De Villiers 12.1-43-27, Ellison 20.4-10-0, Davis 26.10-59-6, Fleming 11.5-21-0, Ward 2.0-4-1.

**KENT:** First Innings 48  
S G Hinks c North c M Wells 48  
M R Benson c Spangitt b Doddams 109  
N R Taylor c Spangitt b Handford 51  
R Ward c Moores b Handford 24  
C S Crowder bow b Doddams 24  
T S A Marsh b Doddams 70  
M V Fleming c Moores b Handford 53  
R M Ellison b Doddams 81  
P S de Villiers c Doddams 8  
D C M Wells 37  
R P Davis run out 2  
A P Ligghead not out 2  
Extras (b 2, lb 1, nb 6) 12  
Total 466

**Score at 100 overs:** 253 for 3.  
**FALL OF WICKETS:** 1-115, 2-110, 3-236, 4-288, 5-288, 6-287, 7-348, 8-412, 9-436  
**BOWLING:** Doddams 43.1-10-58-4; Handford 36.1-11-57-3; C M Wells 30.5-67-2; Salmons 30.5-67-2; North 15.5-30-0; Gould 2.0-0-0; Latham 2.1-0-0.

**Second Innings:**  
S G Hinks c Moores b Doddams 4  
M R Benson c Moores b Doddams 13  
N R Taylor c Spangitt b Doddams 39  
M V Fleming c Spangitt b Doddams 20  
R P Davis bow b Doddams 40  
C S Crowder not out 0  
T S A Marsh not out 0  
Extras (b 4) 4  
Total 155

**FALL OF WICKETS:** 1-4, 2-23, 3-79, 4-79, 5-105, 6-105, 7-105, 8-105, 9-105  
**BOWLING:** Doddams 7.1-29-4; Handford 7.0-31-0; Salmons 12.0-12-0; Umpires: D J Constant and N P Lewis.

# Foster walks as tall as the scoring with maiden 100

By Richard Streeton

**CHELMSFORD: Essex (5pts) drew with Leicestershire (3)**  
ALMOST to the end, the pitch remained utterly true and the game drifted to stalemate in quiet manner. Neil Foster, in the first half-hour, reached his maiden century to provide a fleeting moment of interest. Essex then declared at 761 for six before Leicestershire lost only three wickets as they batted out the day.

As evidence for arguments about the pattern of county cricket, 1990-style, the match was more bountiful. There is nothing intrinsically wrong with tall scoring, which a great many people enjoy. It has always been liable to occur, even in England, when the pitch or other factors have been weighed heavily in the batsman's favour.

In bygone days, though, when this happened, the balance tended to be redressed by having uncovered pitches. Should the authorities feel that their new specifications for a nine-street seam on the ball, coupled with better pitches, have gone too far, perhaps they should consider, in addition, a return to uncovered pitches?

Among the Test and County Cricket Board's intentions was

to make bowlers work harder and acquire a fuller range of skills. In the later stages of this match, the occasional ball turned and some dust flew. Neither side's slow bowlers, however, could impart enough turn to take advantage, which was an indictment of the kind the board have in mind to remedy.

After the 554 runs which Saturday brought, with double hundreds for Gooch and Prichard, this final day was always likely to prove anticlimactic. Foster, resuming at 83, opened his shoulders at everything bowled by Agnew and Ferris and reached his century when he glanced Ferris for a single.

Foster had faced 79 balls and batted 83 minutes. He received a standing ovation when he was run out soon afterwards and Essex declared. Their total briefly was the fifth largest championship total in history but in little more than an hour Lancashire at the Oval relegated them to sixth. Foster's dismissal came when a straight drive by Hardie against Agnew was deflected into the stumps by the bowler. He finished with five sixes and eight fours.

Briers, who completed the

game's fifth hundred, and Boon shared their second century-opening stand of this match without any problems when Leicestershire batted. It was the first time for 25 years that a Leicestershire pair have achieved this feat.

Boon at 170 was caught at short fine leg as he tried to sweep; Whitaker was yorked in the first over after tea.

**LEICESTERSHIRE:** First Innings 520 (C C Lewis 140 not out, T J Boon, N E Briers 104, P Potter).

**Second Innings:**  
T J Boon c Gooch b Such 104  
J J Whitaker c Stephenson 15  
L L Turner not out 10  
D B Briers not out 10  
Extras (b 5, lb 3, w 1, nb 6) 245  
Total (3 wickets) 245

**C C Lewis:** 1-170, 2-205, 3-236, 4-236, 5-236, 6-236, 7-236, 8-236, 9-236, 10-236, 11-236, 12-236, 13-236, 14-236, 15-236, 16-236, 17-236, 18-236, 19-236, 20-236, 21-236, 22-236, 23-236, 24-236, 25-236, 26-236, 27-236, 28-236, 29-236, 30-236, 31-236, 32-236, 33-236, 34-236, 35-236, 36-236, 37-236, 38-236, 39-236, 40-236, 41-236, 42-236, 43-236, 44-236, 45-236, 46-236, 47-236, 48-236, 49-236, 50-236, 51-236, 52-236, 53-236, 54-236, 55-236, 56-236, 57-236, 58-236, 59-236, 60-236, 61-236, 62-236, 63-236, 64-236, 65-236, 66-236, 67-236, 68-236, 69-236, 70-236, 71-236, 72-236, 73-236, 74-236, 75-236, 76-236, 77-236, 78-236, 79-236, 80-236, 81-236, 82-236, 83-236, 84-236, 85-236, 86-236, 87-236, 88-236, 89-236, 90-236, 91-236, 92-236, 93-236, 94-236, 95-236, 96-236, 97-236, 98-236, 99-236, 100-236, 101-236, 102-236, 103-236, 104-236, 105-236, 106-236, 107-236, 108-236, 109-236, 110-236, 111-236, 112-236, 113-236, 114-236, 115-236, 116-236, 117-236, 118-236, 119-236, 120-236, 121-236, 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# Olazábal breaks his duck

ON an island, unless stated

**FROM ST MELLION**

## It's in: José-María Olazábal holes on the 18th to take the Uniroyal International

**From a Correspondent  
Dallas**

On Sunday, however, Stewart banished his nickname probably

He made his big breakthrough when he came from behind to steal last year's US PGA Championship over a faltering Mike Reid and, even though he had further near-misses at the Nabisco Championship in October and the Pebble Beach Pro-Am in February, they were only temporary setbacks.

**By John Watson**

**COWDRAY PARK:** 1, V Evans (1); 2, Escurra (6); 3, P Withers (6); Back, Fraser (2).

**BRANT WALKER:** 1, G Farley (0); 2, Lucas (5); 3, A Kent (7); Back, Lord Milford Haven (3).

**PEOPLE'S SKILLS INTERNATIONAL:** M. Rutherford (0); 2, M Glue (6); 3, Rinehart (9); Back, T. Hanton (2).

**ELLERSTON (WHITE):** 1, A Wade (3); 2, C. S. (3); 3, A. Venn (0); First, W. Barker (5).

**By Stephen Slater**

In the pits, Salo's crew were frantically giving him signals to indicate that he was already leading on aggregate and should not jeopardize his chances by attempting to pass.

● The 40-lap British Formula 3,000 race at Snetterton in Norfolk was also settled on an aggregate result after it too was stopped as a result of an accident.

The Reynard car of Ricard Rydell crashed heavily on the fourth lap. The car was destroyed but the Swede escaped injury. Following the restart only four cars finished the event. They were led home by Alain Menu, of Switzerland, who finished the race in 38min 5.9sec ahead of Pedro Chávez, of Portugal, and Richard Dean, of Great Britain.

"We can't organize anti-doping tests in five minutes," said Giuseppe Piana, the head physician of the Imola autodrome, where the third event of the 1990 World Formula One championship will take place.

Jean-Marie Balestre, the president of the sport's governing body, said recently that

doctors at the Formula One circuits should follow the routines used in the Olympics and that the top finishers in the race and a few other drivers selected through a draw would undergo the tests.

"We have not yet been given a list of forbidden substances," Roberto Bartoletti, the doctor of the Italian Ferrari team, said.

Leading drivers, including the world champion, Alain Prost, of France, and his great Brazilian rival, Ayrton Senna, have said in recent interviews they were in favour of drugs tests.

Drivers in rallying and sport prototype events will also have to undergo such tests later this year.

## Lancias lead the way

WITH the overnight leader, Carlos Sainz, running into tyre problems on his Toyota Celica early on, Lancias moved smoothly into first and second places of the second day of the Tour de Corse rally yesterday.

Didier Auriol, of France, the winner for the past two years, set the quickest time on five of the nine stages to open up a 21-second lead over his fellow countryman, Yves Loubet, the European champion.

The two Lancias moved nearly one minute ahead of Sainz, who lost team-mate Ar-

Louise Aitken-Walker, of Britain, moved into twelfth place overall and first in the European Ladies' Cup battle after new parts were flown in overnight by the Vauxhall team from England to cure a vibration problem on the drive shafts of her Astra.

**LEADING POSITIONS:** After 13 stages: 1, D Aurnol (Fr), Lancia, 2hr 54min07sec; 2, Y Loubet (Fr), Lancia, 2:54.28; 3, C Sarze (Sp), Toyota, 2:55.17; 4, F Chatnot (Fr), BMW, 2:56.09; 5, B Satby (Fr), Lancia, 2:57.39; 6, R Baumschlager (Austria), VW, 3:10.08.

**IN BRIEF**  
**Champion progress**

**TOULOUSE**, the defending champions, will play Racing Club de France at Beziers on Saturday in the first of the semi-finals as the French rugby union club championship. However, they survive in the competition only after the closest of quarter-finals, Denis Charvet, the international centre, scoring a magnificent try in the 10-9 win over Narbonne.

The other semi-final, at Toulouse on Sunday, will pit Agen against Montferrand. Agen having beaten last year's beaten finalists, Toulon, 6-0 over the weekend.

## Lendl's test

Ivan Lendl will play in charity matches on two successive weekends in England over the next month as part of his build-up for Wimbledon. Lendl, who is missing the French Championships to concentrate on his grass-court preparations for Wimbledon, will turn out at the Bristol Lawn Tennis Club on May 26 and 27 in aid of Imperial Cancer Research, and will then play in an event at Eastbourne the following weekend.

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## Island airlift

## Hibbitt in the running for the Walsall post

Hibbitt, however, assistant-manager to Gerry Francis at Bristol Rovers, will defer a final decision until after the third division champions' appearance in the final of the Leyland Daf Cup at Wembley.

Colin Addison is likely to be offered a lucrative contract in Spain after saving Cádiz from

in 10 games under Addison. Last year he was sacked after five months as manager of Almería, Madrid, having succeeded Roldán Atkinson.

In his previous spell in Spain he led Celta to promotion from the second division only to be dismissed in the following pre-

**NATIONAL LEAGUE:** Pittsburgh Pirates 6, Atlanta Braves 4 and 4-2; New York Mets 7, Houston Astros 4 and 7-6; Montreal Expos 7, San Francisco Giants 0; Philadelphia Phillies 5, Los Angeles Dodgers 5; Cincinnati Reds 5, St. Louis Cardinals 1; San Diego Padres 8, Chicago Cubs 3.

Toronto Blue Jays	15	11	577	1
Boston Red Sox	13	11	542	2
Cleveland Indians	13	11	542	2
New York Yankees	10	13	435	4 1/2
Baltimore Orioles	10	15	400	5 1/2
Detroit Tigers	9	17	346	7
West division				
Oakland Athletics	18	6	750	—
Chicago White Sox	13	8	619	3 1/2
Texas Rangers	13	12	520	5 1/2
Minnesota Twins	12	12	500	6

Seattle Mariners	12	14	462	7
San Diego Padres	12	14	462	7
California Angels	10	15	400	8%
Norfolk Tides	7	16	304	10%

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## BASKETBALL

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Playoff Champs:** First round: New York Knicks 121, Boston Celtics 114 (Knicks win best-of-five series 3-2); Phoenix Suns 104, Utah Jazz 102 (Suns win best-of-five series 3-2). Philadelphia 76ers 113, Cleveland Cavaliers 97 (76ers win best-

204-m. **Wing**  
William Hume's 113 (S James 6-32). King's  
Macclesfield 115-0: Woodhouse Grove 207-  
dec. Stockport 58 57-8.  
**COCKSPUR CUP**: Second round: Hounslow  
102, Brentham 103-5.  
\* denotes home team  
**RANSOME'S**, Ipswich: Suffolk 224-6 (J  
McEvoy 82): Essex 117 (K A Butler 80;  
Naderym 54): 6 C 21 (G 4-2, H Wright  
4-24). Suffolk won by 7 runs.

14min 25sec; 2. U Razab (EG); 3. G Calceas (It.); 4. M Scroa (It.); 5. M Abreu (Por); 6. J. Jolebas (Esp), all same time. **Overseas:** 1. Giovanniann (It.), 64hr 5min 44sec; 2. J. Cadogan (Col), at 41sec; 3. A. Fuente (Sp), 1:58; 4. Gaston (Sp), 2:31; 5. M Indurain (Sp), 2:47; 6. P Delgado (Sp), 2:51.

**TOUR DE TRUMP:** Final stage, Richmond Christchurchville, 234.3km; 1. N Rees (US), amateur) 5hr 57min 35sec; 2. A. Kvistrom (Swe), 6hr 0min 40sec same time; 4. A. ...

(Nor): 3. R. Alcalá (Mex), both same time; 4. Verdonck (Bel), 5:57.48; 5. V. Blinov (USSR) same time. Overall: 1. V. Bobrik (USSR), 14:44.2m; 2. Alcalá, 20m 43sec behind; S. Bauer (Can), 2:59; 4. Kvistvoll (Nor), 3:00; N. Verhoeven (Neth), 3:07.

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## SPEEDWAY

**SUNBRITE BRITISH LEAGUE:** Reading 4, Wolverhampton 43.  
**NATIONAL LEAGUE:** Essex 45, Hackney 5.

### MOTO-CROSS

**SITTENDORF, Austria: Austrian 500cc GP**  
 1st race: 1. D Thorpe (Brit), 2. J.  
 Kawasaki, 3. E Gebcoers (Bel), Honda; 3.  
 Nicoll (Britain). KTM; 4. W Liles (U.  
 Kawasaki); 5. J Leisk (Aust), Honda; 6. F.  
 (U). KTM. Second race: 1. Thorpe; 2.  
 Mertens (Bel), KTM; 3. Rossi; 4. Gebcoers;  
 5. Gebcoers (Bel); 6. Liles. Overall: 1. Thorpe  
 40pts; 2. Gebcoers 30; 3. Mertens 25. Over-  
 all: 1. Thorpe 80; 2. J. Leisk. 55pts.

**HATFIELD:** British amateur doubles champions (GB unless stated): *Quarter-Finals*: Happell (Aus) and J Male bt B Cive and Wilkinson 6-2, 6-1, 6-2; *A Page* and C Steven (Aus) bt P Allen and N Pennington, 6-6, 6-2, 6-6.

OTHER MATCH: Army in Hatfield 5-0 (Army goals by: Li-Coi P Watts bt S Ianchar, 6-4, 6-5; Major M Park-Wyer bt P Barrely, 6-3, 6-5. R Fellows bt J Lorraine, 6-3, 4-6, 6-4; L Kingworth bt S Earles, 6-0, 6-3; L A Gordon bt J C. Gordon, 6-0, 6-3.)

**VOLLEYBALL**

3, Schwander, J and M Oswald (RBYC);  
3, 33-177, Class 2: 1, Moustique, M D Spear  
(HPYC); 7:18-58; 2, Fiona of Burnham, D  
Gavett (RBYC); 7:22-55; 3, Harmony, P Dyer  
(CYC); 7:32-00, Class 3: 1, Electric Air, P  
Costa (MYC); 7:30-08; 2, Old Job, N Theodion  
(HPYC); 7:33-24; 3, Muskrat Rumble, B F  
Besney and A Burnell (HPYC); 7:35-15.  
Overall: 1, Moustique, 2, Fiona of Burnham; 3,  
Bort Free.

**VIETNAM CUP:** Isle of Wight regional best: 1. Royal Auxiliary Squadron (T J F Shenilton); 2. Royal Victoria YC (N Young); 3. Seawater YC (N Dobbs); 4. Island SC (G Peckham).

**HOLYHEAD:** UK youth national championships: 428: 1. C McGehee and S Purdie (Northlands SC); 2. J Bell and G Homer (Holy Loch SC); 3. D Edwards and M Nichols (British Steel SC); Laser: 1. C Mitchell (Dendrome SC); 2. F Blakey (Warsash SC); 3. A Oddie (Warsash SC); Laser Radial: 1. R Mountford (Chelmsford SC); 2. P Dickinson (Chelmsford SC); 3. L Thompson (Harrow SC).

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MIDDLESEX	42
NORTHANTS	14
NOTTS.	50
SOMERSET	60
SURREY	24
	33

**SUSSEX**  
**WARWICKS.**  
**WORCS.**  
**YORKSHIRE**

County Scoreboard 0998 221 254  
Minor Counties 0998 22 14 58



● YACHTING 40  
● RACING 42, 43  
● CRICKET 44

# Sir Len's Oval record falls

By Ivo Tennant

THE OVAL: Surrey (4pts) drew with Lancashire (6)

AS SURREY and Lancashire demonstrated so ably, records set by batsmen were made only to be broken. The tally was into double figures yesterday when Neil Fairbrother achieved perhaps the most notable attainment of them all. His innings of 366 out of a total of 863 was the highest made at the Oval.

Lancashire's total was the ninth highest in the history of first-class cricket and only 24 runs short of the highest county-championship score, 887 by Yorkshire against Warwickshire in 1896. The 1,650 runs made in this match, which in terms of a contest became a farce, was the highest aggregate in championship cricket.

That Lancashire made their highest total in their 136-year history was not least because David Hughes, their captain, set out to bat out the match. The match, he reckoned, had been killed by Ian Greig's decision not to declare until the second afternoon and, besides, he wanted his bowlers to be fresh for their cup match today. It was a question of which captain was the more bloody-minded.

The pitch remained the kind which players from another era would have described as rolled marble. When Lancashire were 745 for three, it really did look as if they would make a four-figure score and that Fairbrother would exceed Archie MacLaren's 424, the record score in England (also, of course, for Lancashire).

That, though, was also in another era. These days the likes of Fairbrother have limited-overs cricket to contend with, and he felt drained after another record-breaking day on Sunday. Resuming on 311, he was dropped twice on 327 and was not the dominant batsman of Saturday. Greig found a method to keep him in relative check, bowling wide of off stump with three men in the vicinity of cover point.

Yet Fairbrother still managed to reach 350 by driving the Surrey captain through this cover ring and before long he had passed Sir Leonard Hutton's 364 here against Australia in 1938. Fairbrother,

SURREY: 707 for 9 dec (J A Greig 291, M Lynch 96, A J Stewart 70, R A Allan 55).  
Second innings  
G S Clinton c Westwood b Atherton 15  
A J Stewart not out 5  
M A Lynch not out 6  
Extras (b 2, lb 1, nb 2) 5  
Total (1 wk) 80  
R A Allan, G P Thorpe, D M Ward, J Greig, R T Medhurst, M P Bicknell, N M Kendrick and A J Murphy did not bat.  
FALL OF WICKET: 1-57.  
BOWLING: DeFreitas 4-0-10-0; Fenton 16-4-42-0; Atherton 13-5-25-1.

LANCASHIRE: First Innings  
G D Mendis run out 102  
G Fowler run out 20  
M A Atherton c Greig b Kendrick 181  
N H Fairbrother c Kendrick b Greig 366  
T E Jessy retired hurt 18  
M Westwood c Greig b Bicknell 45  
J W K Hogg c Ward b Bicknell 45  
P A J DeFreitas b Murphy 51  
D P Hughes not out 3  
J D Fitch c Stewart b Murphy 3  
B P Patterson c Greig b McCook 23  
Extras (b 8, lb 15, w 1, nb 9) 23  
Total 863  
Scores at 100 overs: 401 for 2.  
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-49, 2-184, 3-548, 4-745, 5-774, 6-844, 7-848, 8-882.  
BOWLING: Murphy 44-6-180-2; Bicknell 42-2-175-1; Kendrick 56-10-192-1; Medhurst 50-5-177-1; Lynch 5-2-17-0; Greig 15-3-73-2; Thorpe 7-1-46-0.  
Umpires: B Dudson and A A Jones.

though, would be first to admit that a comparison would be odious.

His was the third highest score in England, after MacLaren's innings in 1895 and Hick's unbeaten 405 two years ago. Both were against Somerset at Taunton. In four Tests for England, all of them in 1987 and 1988, Fairbrother's best score was a mere three.

When Fairbrother was out, ultimately frustrated by Greig and top-edging a pull, he had batted eight hours 24 minutes and hit five sixes and 47 fours. At home in Surrey's stockbroker belt, Hutton was pleased for him, although he does not favour four-day cricket. Hutton's own innings had taken 13 hours (the boundaries were not shortened as they were in this match), the pitch had been quicker and Fleetwood-Smith had gained some turn on the first day.

Hutton would like to see a return to uncovered pitches for all but one-day matches, and Harry Brind, the groundsman here as well as being the Test and County Cricket Board's inspector of pitches, did admit that this was not the ideal pitch. Although Lancashire's innings fell away once Fairbrother was out it was not because the ball was turning significantly.

Watkinson made 46 and Hogg 45, but with Jessy having pulled a muscle, some records did remain intact.



Champagne cricketer: Neil Fairbrother celebrates his 366 for Lancashire against Surrey at the Oval yesterday

## HIGHEST COUNTY INNINGS

424	A C MacLaren	Lancs v Somerset	Taunton	1895	887
405*	G A Hick	Worce v Somerset	Taunton	1888	863
366	N H Fairbrother	Lancs v Surrey	The Oval	1990	811
357*	R Abel	Surrey v Somerset	The Oval	1889	803-4 dec
343*	P A Perrin	Essex v Derby	Chesterfield	1904	761-6 dec
341	G H Hirst	Yorks v Leics	Leicester	1905	742
333	K S Duleep Singh	Sussex v Northants	Hove	1930	739-7 dec
332	W H Ashdown	Kent v Essex	Brentwood	1934	728
331*	J D Robertson	Lancs v Sussex	Worcester	1949	707-9 dec
322	E Paynter	Lancs v Sussex	Hove	1937	704
322	I V A Richards	Somerset v Warwick	Taunton	1895	701-4 dec

\* denotes not out

## HIGHEST COUNTY TOTALS

Yorkshire v Warwickshire	Edgbaston	1896	1723 for 31 wks
Lancashire v Surrey	The Oval	1990	1650 for 21 wks
Surrey v Somerset	The Oval	1889	1601 for 29 wks
Kent v Essex	Brentwood	1934	1570 for 29 wks
Lancashire v Somerset	Chelmsford	1895	1530 for 19 wks
Essex v Lancashire	Chelmsford	1990	1507 for 28 wks
Surrey v Hampshire	The Oval	1909	1507 for 28 wks
Notts v Leicestershire	Trent Bridge	1903	1502 for 28 wks
Trent Bridge	Trent Bridge	1895	1502 for 28 wks
Surrey v Lancashire	The Oval	1990	1502 for 28 wks
Surrey v Nottinghamshire	Trent Bridge	1947	1502 for 28 wks
Sussex v Surrey	Hastings	1902	1502 for 28 wks
Yorkshire v Surrey	The Oval	1899	1502 for 28 wks
Leics v Worcestershire	Worcester	1906	1502 for 28 wks

## HIGHEST MATCH AGGREGATES

England v Australia	Headingley	1948	1723 for 31 wks
Surrey v Lancashire	The Oval	1990	1650 for 21 wks
England v Australia	Lord's	1930	1601 for 29 wks
Essex v Kent	Chelmsford	1888	1570 for 29 wks
Essex v Leicestershire	Chelmsford	1990	1530 for 19 wks
England v West Indies	The Oval	1976	1507 for 28 wks
MCC v New Zealand	Lord's	1927	1502 for 28 wks

Refers to first-class matches in England.  
County details in previous columns refer to championship matches.

Compiled by Richard Lockwood

## UEFA sceptical at letting the English return

LENNART Johansson, the president of UEFA, yesterday repeated his warning that the violence of Leeds United's supporters at Bournemouth could have put back the readmission of English clubs to European competition — and he said that the issue would be decided on May 24 without waiting for a report on the behaviour of England followers at the World Cup.

Johansson, the Swede who backed the immediate return of the English when he was elected as head of European football's governing body last month, also criticised the Football Association and the Football Association for apparently ignoring police warnings of inadequate security at Dean Court on Saturday.

There were 73 arrests and more than 20 people were injured after an estimated 3,000 to 4,000 Leeds supporters tried to get in without tickets and created havoc. Leeds had been allocated 2,300 tickets for the match, which Leeds needed to win to ensure promotion from the second division and which Bournemouth needed to win to avoid relegation.

Johansson said yesterday: "After this, I am very sceptical about letting the English clubs back." English club sides were banned from European competitions after the 1985 Heysel

Stadium disaster in Belgium in which 39 people died.

Johansson is due to meet Gerhard Aigner, the UEFA general secretary, Colin Moynihan, the Minister for Sport, and officials of the Football Association at Wembley before the FA Cup final on Saturday. Johansson said the decision to let the Bournemouth game proceed despite police warnings could influence the decision.

The police chief in charge of supervising the Bournemouth-Leeds match called for the police to have the power of veto over certain fixtures. Chief Superintendent Les Burns was still angry that the League twice rejected applications for the fixture to be switched away from the Bank holiday weekend.

● MANNHEIM, West Germany: The police detained 75 after fighting between rival supporters following a first division match in which Fortuna Düsseldorf beat Mannheim 1-0 and probably relegated them (AP reports).

● AMSTERDAM: Ajax won the Dutch league title but their supporters invaded the pitch during the 1-1 draw at NEC Nijmegen. The game had to be suspended for 15 minutes. Police arrested 28 Ajax supporters after disturbances in the town.

## Italian TV helps Moynihan's case

By John Goodbody

COLIN Moynihan, the Minister for Sport, has two main tasks today when he sees the Italian authorities to discuss final crowd-control arrangements for the World Cup.

The weekend hooliganism at Bournemouth that was shown on Italian television's most popular sports programme on Sunday should make Moynihan certain of having his requests granted.

During his interview with the Interior Minister this morning, he will again press the authorities to impose a ban on all alcohol sales on the days of matches in Sardinia where England play their three first round games.

The widespread drinking in Bournemouth — where there were 73 arrests — was the latest episode in drink-related violence. Moynihan pressed this argument during his visit here last December but the Italians are reluctant to order a ban because it would hurt the tourist trade on the holiday island.

The Minister will also see Italia 90, the World Cup organizers. He wants to ensure that any spare tickets in the

part of the ground reserved for the English supporters will be returned to the Football Association so as not to ruin the policy of strict segregation.

There is surprise here that the British Government is unable to prevent known hooligans from travelling abroad. Under Part 2 of the Football Spectators Act, courts have the powers to make restriction orders, preventing anyone convicted of football-related offences from travelling to events like the World Cup. But because the Act only came into force on April 24, only a handful of convicted hooligans will be prevented from travelling to Sardinia and buying tickets on the black market.

The Italian TV programme, *La Domenica Sportiva*, showed the violence in Bournemouth and an official of the National Football Intelligence Unit, which coordinates the police work on hooliganism, picked out known trouble-makers. The programme did not, however, show the violence that occurred in other European countries at the weekend.

## League's crowds reach eight-year high

By Louise Taylor

FOOTBALL congratulated itself yesterday on a season in which League attendances reached their highest level for eight years, but warned that there is no room for complacency.

Arthur Sandford, the chief executive of the League, is anxious that the fourth successive rise in total gates — at 14,950,987 up almost one million on last year — does not prompt premature self-satisfaction. "The message is that the product is a good one, but we must make it better," he said yesterday.

"There is still an awful lot of work to do if we are to provide spectators with good, comfortable facilities, but the message is getting across that improved security inside grounds means that they are largely safe places to go."

"But among the people I meet some still do not go to football because they have fears about safety, and by meeting the demands of the Taylor report over the coming seasons we hope to allay those worries."

To those who argue that the growth in attendances will

## ATTENDANCES IN THE 1988-89 AND 1989-90 SEASONS

### FIRST DIVISION

Club	1988-89	1989-90	Total	Average	Diff
Arsenal	676,305	755,625	1,431,930	33,572	-1,922
Aston Villa	442,890	523,310	966,200	21,724	-2,542
Charlton	178,562	204,507	383,069	8,645	+1,365
Coventry	301,613	357,791	659,404	14,983	+5,071
Derby	304,760	369,250	674,010	15,262	+1,748
Leeds	245,095	309,260	554,355	12,603	+6,662
Leicester	231,184	275,336	506,520	11,544	+4,444
Liverpool	327,635	377,875	705,510	15,811	-1,294
Luton	183,575	217,551	401,126	9,117	+2,571
Man City	340,500	395,526	736,026	16,571	+4,475
Man Utd	592,572	684,667	1,277,239	28,979	+9,111
Millwall	282,336	324,416	606,752	13,721	+2,995
Norwich	318,915	378,002	696,917	15,736	-2,74
Nottingham	286,210	325,000	611,210	13,822	+3,67
QPR	233,338	278,291	511,629	11,540	+659
Sheff Wed	380,705	437,864	818,569	18,429	+892
Sheff Utd	266,210	312,277	578,487	12,925	+903
Southampton	454,873	504,834	959,707	21,903	+1,103
Wimbledon	148,656	178,381	327,037	7,451	-173

### SECOND DIVISION

Club	1988-89	1989-90	Total	Average	Diff
Bournemouth	195,001	208,087	403,088	9,137	-650
Barnsley	165,945	172,215	338,160	7,682	+1,806
Blackburn	204,493	218,247	422,740	9,489	+958
Bristol	242,052	265,275	507,327	11,532	+1,548
Bristol City	208,104	218,247	426,351	9,699	+386
Hull	153,318	165,776	319,094	7,245	-154
Ipswich	202,889	215,333	418,222	9,482	+352
Leeds	501,553	518,211	1,019,764	23,110	+6,299
Leicester	245,982	265,009	510,991	11,586	+1,002
Millwall	373,361	395,526	768,887	17,288	+2,710
Newcastle	436,499	455,231	891,730	20,039	+1,388
Oldham	188,083	204,416	392,499	8,942	+2,518
QPR	148,996	165,332	314,328	7,128	-544
Plymouth	196,444	201,112	397,556	9,037	+116
Sheff Wed	225,781	241,276	467,057	10,623	+2,835
Sheff Utd	342,184	378,002	720,186	16,230	+2,896
Sunderland	199,881	215,683	415,564	9,441	+734
Walsley	282,716	282,716	565,432	12,823	+1,949
WBA	293,411	312,277	605,688	13,682	+1,495
West Ham	284,022	304,834	588,856	13,274	+464
Wolves	331,016	348,282	679,298	15,274	+2,649

continue regardless, Sandford had a ready response: "You just need to look at gates in the 1950s to show how much further we have to go. One of my principal aims as chief executive is to see them continue to rise."

"Saturday's events will not have helped, but it has been a largely trouble-free season, and if England do well in the

World Cup it should have a positive effect on next season's gates. Football is still the world's greatest game."

The proposal to televise its championships live had drawn a public consensus that attendances would suffer. But Manchester United and Liverpool have found the reverse to be the case. Despite frequent visits from the television cam-

eras United regained the title of the best-supported club. They attracted 740,406 spectators for their 19 home League matches, an average of 38,969. Liverpool, who enjoyed the best support for the previous two seasons, averaged 36,974, compared with 37,727 last year and 36,689 in 1988.

Bill Fox, the League presi-

dent, insisted that football has the cameras to thank for boosting gate receipts. "Television games have helped to generate interest," he said. "I am the first to admit I thought it would work out the other way round, but there is no doubt that live Sunday afternoon games on television have played a large part in the rise in attendances."

"In the past, if you wanted to see Finney or Matthews you had to go and watch them live, but when people got out of the habit of going to football they forgot about it. It comes down to what you do not have you do not miss, and by watching players like Barnes and Gascoigne on television people are obviously inspired to go back and see it for themselves."

"There has been no trouble at the live televised matches, and this will also have helped to convince people it is safe to go to football."

Fox also believed that a decline in the long-hall approach had increased attendances. "There is no doubt that the long hall did not do football any favours," he said. "But it seems to be going out of fashion."

## Smith's dream wrecked

By Barry Pickthall

LAWRIE Smith's £4 million dream of winning the Whitbread Round the World Yacht Race lay in ruins after a £13,000 cobalt rod shroud supporting the mast of his maxi, Rothmans, broke early yesterday as the British yacht was vying for the lead, 38 hours after setting out from Fort Lauderdale on the final stage of the race back to Southampton.

Only the reflex action of the crew in turning the boat onto on to the opposite tack saved them from being dismasted. "There was no warning," Smith told *The Times*. "It went with a loud bang. We only just managed to save the rig."

Last night the crew was heading due west for Georgetown, South Carolina, where the yacht's pit crew was waiting to fit replacement rigging. "If all goes well, we should have the boat turned round and back in the race within an hour," Mike Pavitt, Rothmans' project manager, said, optimistically.

The damage occurred while Rothmans was pounding heavily through the steep, standing waves of the fast-moving Gulf Stream, whipped up by 23-knot northerly headwinds. "Now the race is to protect our fourth place overall from The Card and Charles Jourdan," Smith said. The diversion to replace the rod stay is expected to cost Smith and his crew at least 30 hours on the leaders, cutting deeply into the four-day advantage the British yacht holds over the fifth- and sixth-placed yachts. Last night the lead had been taken up by Fisher & Paykel.

## New Scottish stadium will be finest in Europe

Plans for a £100 million national sports stadium in Scotland, which would be commercially viable, were unveiled in Glasgow yesterday. The men behind the plan to build Europe's finest stadium within the next five years said they would be able to raise the money needed to finance such an ambitious project.

The stadium, earmarked for Strathclyde Park in Lanarkshire, would replace Hampden Park as the home to the

Scottish international football matches and cup finals. One of the scheme's principal backers, Dr John Reid, a local MP, said that a purpose-built ground is the only realistic remedy to Hampden's problems and the edict from FIFA that all World Cup qualifying ties must be played in all-seater grounds from 1992.

Dr Reid, who is part of a steering group formed nine months ago to explore the possibility of a new sports

stadium, said: "We are on the verge of a major breakthrough. We believe we have surmounted the financial problems for a new stadium with the assistance of Strathclyde Region, the relevant districts and the private sector."

"We have answered the problem of how to raise the money and have put forward a commercially-viable business scheme. Given the resolution of some outstanding planning

issues, we feel the project commands wholesale support."

"We are not at the starting blocks... we are approaching the home straight," Dr Reid said. The 65,000 capacity stadium would include an eight-lane athletics track and retractable roof modelled on the Toronto Skydome.

However, the MP for Motherwell North is emphatic that the scheme is a practical one. The new site would be

turned into a thriving commercial area, close to the M74 motorway and with parking space for 36,000 cars.

"The only choice is between a new national stadium or a patch-up job on Hampden," he said. "We have looked at Hampden and, really, there is only one choice. For 20 years there has been talk of a new stadium but now the dream is near reality."